

Egypt insisting on total evacuation of Sinai

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Weizman meets Sadat and Gamasy in Egypt

Invited by Cairo to hear Egyptian views on security

By HIRSH GOODMAN

Jerusalem Post Military Correspondent

Defence Minister Ezer Weizman left for Egypt yesterday for meetings with President Sadat and Egyptian War Minister Mohammad Gamasy. The meetings were arranged at the request of the Egyptians and coordinated with Prime Minister Menachem Begin in a telephone call to Washington on Friday night.

Weizman, who is scheduled to return to Israel within the next day or two with Egypt's proposals regarding arrangements for Israel's security to compensate for the return of territory, left for Egypt yesterday morning aboard an American military plane. He was accompanied by two unnamed major-generals and his military secretary Ilan Tehila.

The defence minister spent most of yesterday deep in discussion with Gamasy at an airbase 25 kilometres north of Alexandria. It is understood that the Egyptian proposals, which were drawn up by a special military team on the orders of President Sadat and under the direction of Gamasy, deal only with Sinai and the West Bank. The Golan Heights are not being dealt with in the current discussions, it is understood.

It is understood that Weizman's role is primarily to listen to what the Egyptians have to offer. He will then present Egypt's proposals to the Ministerial Defence Committee, which will study them before Begin leaves for Ismailia next Sunday. It was made clear to the Jerusalem Post by cabinet sources yesterday that Weizman would not be offering any Israeli proposals to the Egyptians — this is being left to Premier Begin when he meets with President Sadat.

The Post has learned that Sadat himself had proposed that Weizman should visit Cairo, during his visit to Jerusalem last month, when he was reported to have established a good rapport with the minister. A formal invitation reached Weizman several days after Sadat returned to Cairo, with the understanding that the visit would take place at a mutually agreed time.

Yesterday's meeting between Sadat and Weizman, it is thought, did not deal with the actual negotiating process, but was devoted to further clarifications on the general mood in both countries and a preliminary assessment of all informal — of the overall situation.

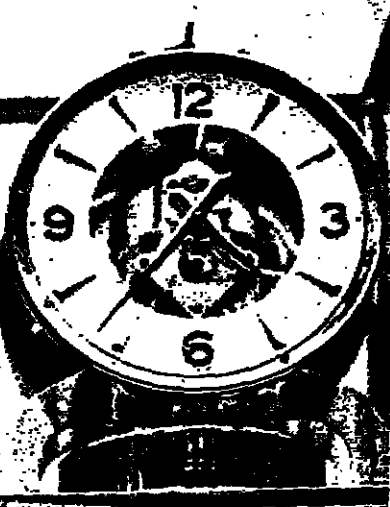
Both countries have said they are not yet discussing military and territorial details, but only working out the principles of a peace settlement in the Middle East conflict.

There was speculation in Cairo that one of the topics discussed by Weizman and Gamasy was the opening of a "hot line" between the Egyptian and Israeli high commands or defence ministries.

The surprise meeting was seen by Cairo diplomats as an escalation of Egyptian pressure on Arab hardliners to abandon their sharp criticism of Sadat's recent peace moves and join in his settlement efforts.

Meanwhile, several details have become known concerning Israel's security demand. The details, which are still to be discussed by the Cabinet, emerged from studies ordered by the Defence Ministry after Sadat's visit.

The Post understands that Israel will demand that any territory returned by Israel remain (Continued on page 2, col. 5)



This clock is the gift Defence Minister Ezer Weizman brought to President Sadat yesterday. (IDF photo)

'Israel must quit Sharm and Yamit'

By DAVID LANDAU

Post Diplomatic Correspondent
CAIRO. — As Defence Minister Ezer Weizman and Egyptian War Minister Mohammad Gamasy opened talks yesterday on the gulf issues of territory and security, a highly placed source in Cairo told the Jerusalem Post that Egypt would "never accept an Israeli military presence on any of her land."

The source, who is intimately familiar with Sadat's thinking, asserted that the president could not convince his people that a peace settlement with Israel was worthwhile if it provided for a continued Israeli presence anywhere in Sinai. The source mentioned specifically Sharm el-Sheikh, Yamit and El-Arish.

His words seemed to suggest that Weizman and his top military aides will have some hard bargaining in their talks with Gamasy at Alexandria.

The source said Weizman would remain here at least until this afternoon, and probably until tomorrow.

While adopting an uncompromising line on the substance of a territorial settlement, the highly-placed source seemed markedly encouraged — even excited — by the sudden Weizman-Gamasy meeting. He said it meant the momentum was being maintained at a furious pace, and that the two sides wanted to hammer out tangible agreements on the territorial and security issues before the Sadat-Begin summit.

This would enable the two leaders, at their press conference now scheduled for Sunday afternoon in Ismailia, to announce impressively significant progress in these areas as well as were at the Cairo conference, where the diplomats and lawyers are still industriously thrashing out an agenda for the peace conference.

The conference, according to the highly placed Egyptian source, is likely to recess briefly after the Begin visit, and reconvene at foreign minister level about January 5. (Continued on page 2, col. 5)

Begin: Peace plan 'negotiable'

The Minister Menachem Begin said yesterday that he has outlined for an Arab peace settlement in the West Bank and Gaza. He expects Egyptian President Anwar Sadat to counter-proposals when he meets him in Ismailia on Sunday.

In a statement to the press, Begin said he had outlined for last night to wind up a journey which brought him into direct contact with President Carter and U.S. leaders, British Prime Minister James Callaghan and a French government envoy dispatched to London by Prime Minister Valéry Giscard d'Estaing.

Begin was due to leave late last night. He told the airport news conference, called following his brief stopover in the British yesterday, "My proposal is this. President Sadat may

BULLETIN

Minister Menachem Begin said that the peace plan he had outlined in Washington and London is a "negotiable" one. He said it was a "good" one, and that it would lead to a "good" peace.

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Prime Minister Callaghan greets Prime Minister Begin who arrived from Washington for a short stay before going on to Israel. Ambassador Avraham Kidron, centre. (UPI telephoto)

Begin to lift veil—just enough—at full Cabinet session today

By ASHER WALLFISH

Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Premier Menachem Begin intends to lift the veil of secrecy from his peace ideas just enough to secure the widest possible backing from his colleagues and his party before he leaves for Ismailia next Sunday, his aides claimed yesterday.

At today's full cabinet meeting, the Premier will begin to answer the multitude of questions arising out of his statements in the U.S. and the press reports surrounding his talks with American leaders. Most ministers were uninformed of what he planned to tell President Jimmy Carter before he left.

Tomorrow he is expected to allay the anxiety expressed in Likud circles, with regard to the future of Judea and Samaria, in particular. The ferment in the Likud subsided somewhat yesterday, but not the apprehension. The Premier will be asked to brief the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, as well as the leader of the opposition, Labour chief Shimon Peres. Labour has launched sharp attacks on Begin this week for keeping the parliament totally in the dark.

Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin rallied to Begin's support at a press

conference in Beit Agron, Jerusalem, yesterday (see p. 2). Yadin said that since the peace ideas which Begin presented to President Carter contained "dozens of points and not the six which had been published" it was out of the question "to express an intelligent opinion on the incorrect and incomplete details which had seen publication thus far."

Yadin said that no peace plan could serve as a basis for a realistic solution unless it enables each side to assume that its long-term options still remain open.

Yadin criticized those who attacked Begin for having "changed his mind and abandoned his stated policies."

"We don't have election time coming up. Every party has to measure the chances of peace against its established ideology," Yadin said.

The Deputy Premier said that Begin would have to weigh the degree to which he could let more people into his plans now against the possible harm this could do to the negotiations.

Before Begin went to Washington, Yadin said, he had given the Committee of Security Ministers "the initial points of his peace ideas."

Egyptians to boost security at Beirut embassy after attacks

BEIRUT. — Egypt is sending extra security men to Lebanon to help protect its embassy staff from bomb and rocket attacks, informed sources here said yesterday.

The reinforcements were expected to arrive within the next few days following an urgent appeal from the few diplomats left at the battle-scarred embassy in Beirut. The new came as explosives experts defused time-bombs and rockets discovered near the embassy building in a southern suburb of the city for the second time in two days.

The planned attacks were seen as a violent reaction against Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's peace initiative with Israel.

Through a large part of the Arab world has either declared its support for Egypt or joined the hard-line rejectionist camp, the oil-rich conservatives of the Arabian peninsula have not yet sided with Sadat or his opponents.

Jordan's King Hussein who reached Muscat, Oman, yesterday in his current trip which has been described as an effort to restore Arab unity, was believed by many observers to be seeking to convince other Arab

nations, especially the conservative oil states, of the danger to the Arab cause inherent in forcing Sadat to act alone.

Western analysts, Arab diplomats and Palestinian sources all appeared to concur that Hussein would be willing, possibly anxious, to join current peace moves, but not within the context of the Cairo talks.

A possible indication that Kuwait, at least, does not wish to be identified with the anti-Sadat camp, could be seen in the Kuwaiti government's decision yesterday to order the "al-Rai al-Aam" daily to suspend publication for one week after the paper published a scathing personal attack on Sadat on Monday.

Among other things, the paper compared Sadat unfavourably with his predecessor, Gamal Abdel Nasser, and said his peace initiatives stemmed from his efforts to escape from Nasser's shadow and secure a niche in history for himself.

Another personal attack on Sadat was delivered yesterday by Syrian Foreign Minister Abdel Halim Khaddam, who compared the Egyptian President to Marshall Henri Fatah the French leader who cooperated with the Nazis.



Six of the eight hostages captured by the Saharan Polisario guerrillas in Mauritania last May. Second from right is one of the two women hostages, Mrs. Nicole Feulon, 38. All are to be freed in Algiers on Friday in a ceremony to be attended by UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. (UPI telephoto)

Selling spree continues in stock market

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — The "selling psychosis" continued to hit the stock market yesterday, with 80 shares falling by up to 10 per cent and another 88 shares being listed as "sellers only" — falling by up to 5 per cent without finding any buyers.

Only the large banks remained firm — and this was because the banks began buying their own shares in an effort to "firm up" the market.

El Cohen, manager of Discount Bank, yesterday told The Jerusalem Post that it is "very difficult to make

any prediction, when investors who a few months ago bought stocks without rhyme or reason are now dumping the same stocks without any regard to their intrinsic value."

He noted, however, that some shares were already down to their 1975 value — before the boom began, and some of them were "good buys today and would probably be better buys within a day or two."

He believed that the "selling psychosis" might continue for another day or two. Nevertheless, Cohen advised any

serious investor to get "expert advice from a professional" and not listen to "hot tips."

He also said that the long-range sensible investor should diversify. By diversification, he meant building up a solid portfolio containing 20 to 25 per cent stocks, spread out in index-linked bonds, dollar-linked bonds and mutual funds run by the banks.

(Knesset hearing — page 2; Stock report — page 7)

Police hold suspects in slayer killing

(UPI). — The Swiss Government yesterday said that two of the German terrorists suspected of involvement in the kidnapping and murder of a Swiss citizen, a police official, were held in a small town near the French border.

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West Bankers' visit to Egypt delayed again

Jerusalem Post Staff

The West Bank delegation to Egypt, scheduled to leave last night, was delayed again yesterday afternoon by the Egyptians for unknown reasons.

Members of the delegation have been advised to stand by for possible departure at 5 p.m. today.

Soviet military group in Libya for talks

LONDON (Reuters). — A Soviet military delegation led by Deputy Defence Minister Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, has arrived in Tripoli for talks with Libyan officials, the Libyan news agency reported yesterday.

The Soviet group arrived on Monday and by yesterday two rounds of talks were held.

Earlier yesterday, Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi alerted armed forces in the area to join the rescue, and very soon the major helicopter centre at Isfahan was sending hundreds of helicopters into action, taking supplies to the rugged quake area where temperatures were below freezing.

A second quake was recorded at 9 a.m. (Israel time) yesterday by the geophysics institute at Masad University, measuring 5 on the Richter scale, and located about 1,000 km. from Masad. The precise location was not immediately determined.

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For Him & for Her: We have received the winter collection of Ted Lapidus, including suits, coats, sweaters, dresses, shirts and marvelous silk blouses.

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to cloudy with rain, mainly in the north.

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Max
Jerusalem	75	4-11	10
Golan	55	7-13	11
Nahariya	55	6-18	16
Safed	54	6-9	9
Haifa Port	63	10-18	17
Tiberias	59	8-19	18
Nazareth	55	8-14	15
Afula	65	8-18	17
Shimon	66	9-17	11
Tel Aviv	68	9-17	17
B-G Airport	57	8-21	17
Jericho	54	6-18	19
Casaz	66	9-17	17
Sderoth	67	9-17	17
Eilat	40	8-20	20
Tiran Straits	59	13-21	20

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The West German Ambassador, Klaus Schuett, yesterday called on the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism Yigal Hurvitz.

Andre Bouloche, Chairman of the Committee for International Scientific Cooperation with the Council of Europe, was the guest of honour at a dinner given by Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i on Monday night. Mr. Bouloche is in Israel as a guest of the Knesset together with Dr. Jean-Pierre Massue, the committee's Chairman. The dinner explored possible avenues of cooperation between Israel and the Council.

A paratroopers' forest in memory of the 54 soldiers and air crew members who died last May when their helicopter crashed during an army exercise in the Jordan Valley, was dedicated yesterday in Bat Yam.

The Yesodot Zionist Youth educational institutes yesterday gave a farewell reception for Yosef Kharman who is due to leave his position as Youth Aliya Director and member of the Jewish Agency Executive.

Yosef Tekohah, president of Ben-Gurion University and former Israel ambassador to the United Nations, will open the 1977-78 season of the ZOA House, Tel Aviv, English-language dinner club at 8 this evening. He will speak on "Israel after 30 years."

Regional Bank Leumi manager Gershon Kedar will speak (in Hebrew) on "Finance and Development by the World Bank" at the Haifa Rotary Club, at the Nof Hotel, at 1 p.m. today.

Yehoshua Freedman will speak on beach management at the weekly meeting of Jerusalem Rotary Club at the YMCA, 1 p.m. today.

Birth

YEHIEL — to Joanna and Raoul Yehiel, a son, yesterday at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem.

Pascin in J'lem

Post Art Editor

A comprehensive exhibition of drawings and watercolours by Jules Pascin, noted portrayer of Palestinian ladies of the afternoon, opened yesterday at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.

Pascin, a Bulgarian Jew of Sephardi origin whose real name was Julius Pincus, hanged himself in 1930 at the age of 45. Most of his drawings were willed to the Israel Museum by his late brother, Joseph Pincus of Paris.

Histadrut approves portfolio division

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV — A meeting of the Histadrut Central Committee and the Alignment faction in the organization's executive yesterday unanimously approved the division of central committee portfolios as proposed earlier this week by Histadrut Secretary General Yehoram Meshel.

The trade union portfolio was given to Yisrael Kessar despite the fact that it had been formally promised to Gideon Ben-Yisrael.

Ben-Yisrael himself, who was rumored to have been considering resigning, was given two days to decide whether to accept the economic planning and social affairs portfolio, which Meshel offered him. But Ben-Yisrael said last night he would not accept this portfolio although he would not resign from his post in the central committee.

BOXING — Israel beat France by eight victories to three in an amateur boxing match in Paris on Monday night.

On the thirtieth day after the passing of our beloved

Prof. Dr. WALTER STERN

an Askeru and unveiling of the tombstone will take place at the Tivon Cemetery on Friday, December 23, 1977, at 12 noon. Our thanks to all who offered condolences in person or by letter.

The Family

On the thirtieth day after the death of our sister and sister-in-law

ELSE ESTHER KOTKOWSKI

the memorial service and unveiling of the tombstone will be held at the Mount of Olives cemetery, Jerusalem on Dec. 23, 1977 at 2 p.m.

The Family

We shall meet at Beit Hamehandes at 1.30 p.m. Transport will be provided.



Led by Elihu Ben-Elissar, the Israeli delegation to the Cairo conference, yesterday pushes its way through throngs of people at Mit abu el-Kom village, where President Sadat was born nearly 50 years ago. (UPI telephoto)

Women warble warm welcome to Israelis in Sadat's village

MIT ABUL KOM, Egypt — The Israeli delegation to the Cairo talks yesterday visited this prosperous agricultural village in the central Nile delta where President Anwar Sadat was born 50 years ago next Sunday.

Israeli sources said the delegation head, Dr. Elihu Ben-Elissar, had asked to be shown Sadat's home as a "gesture of courtesy to the president."

Young girls and women stood shoulder-to-shoulder on roofs overlooking the two-lane main street and ululated in a high-pitched warble a joyous welcome as the Israelis pulled up in two black official cars. Three busloads of newsmen had arrived 10 minutes earlier.

Men and boys waved their arms and chanted in front of the spot where Sadat's house once stood. It has been replaced by two buildings and a garden which he visits several times a year — one of them a stately brick home that is the most solid building in the village. The president still has relatives in the village, its population 3,000.

Ben-Elissar and Aluf Avraham Tamir were conducted through a bright, airy sitting room with blue-

and-orange upholstered divans along the walls. The third Israeli official, Meir Rosenne, was not present.

The freshly painted mint green walls bore portraits and photographs of Sadat, but none of his family.

Sadat's father had been a clerk in the army, and the president had farmed the dark fertile soil near the village. "I think I understand the president and the Egyptian people better now, through understanding the way they live and the way they work," Ben-Elissar said.

The villagers do not live well by Western standards. The signs of poverty in the region, as in the capital are overwhelming. The village is in an area 80 km. north of Cairo in the heart of the delta region between the Rosetta and Damietta branches of the swift-flowing Nile.

A young man who spoke to the visitors in Hebrew explained he had learned it in the Egyptian army.

In his questions he stressed many of the subjects frequently raised by the Hebrew language services of Cairo Radio.

They included problems concerning relations between Ashkenazi and Sephardi Jews. "Which of you

are Ashkenazi and which are Sephardi? How do you get on together?" he asked.

He appeared surprised to hear there was no friction either in the official delegation or in the accompanying press party.

The region is flat and bright green with winter vegetables planted in square or oblong fields. Huge cabbages stood in rows long beyond picking time, growing from stalks. Peasants — *fellahin*, as they are called in Egypt — squatted in the fields plucking weeds. Others plowed new furrows with water buffalo pulling wooden implements.

Tractors were scarce and domesticated work animals plentiful. The *fellahin* live in huts of mud brick along dozens of stagnant irrigation canals.

Horses pulling turn-of-the-century buggies were more common sights in the larger towns than automobiles. Two black 1949 Chrysler sedans were in use as taxis.

Sadat's village has only one paved road. It was spotted with dung, sidestepped by the Israeli officials but trampled by the following horde of newsmen. (Reuter, UPI)

Settlers worried about 'autonomy'; Peres: Jordan is defence line

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT

Jerusalem Post Political Reporter PHASIAEL (The Jordan Valley). — Residents of civilian settlements in the Jordan Valley yesterday demanded continued Israeli rule in the area and criticized Prime Minister Menachem Begin's proposal for local autonomy in the West Bank.

Some residents expressed fear that they will be "sold out" in a peace agreement and urged steps to fight any such eventualities. These measures will probably be coordinated with the settlers of the Golan Heights, and with Gush Etzion at a meeting in Ofra next Tuesday.

Settlers came to this moshav yesterday to meet Labour's chairman Shimon Peres.

Peres and other Labour leaders reiterated their commitment to the settlers, but Peres avoided saying the Jordan Valley should be part of Israel.

He declared that the Jordan is Israel's defence line and there can be no security without the IDF and settlers. The former defence minister said, "We've told the settlements they're not flower pot settlements, (which can be removed), but permanent ones, and on this point — as a movement — we'll be insistent."

After Peres left, settlement representatives decided to brief Education Minister Zevulun Hammer, who is ideologically close to them, so that he can represent their case at today's Cabinet session. They also decided to ask for meetings with Begin and the chairman of the Ministerial Settlement Committee, Ariel Sharon.

Meanwhile, the organisers of the Ofra meeting said they will organize a demonstration in front of the Cabinet conference room to coincide with its meeting.

First Haifa atlas to be published

HAIFA — Twenty-one research workers have volunteered their scientific efforts towards the publication of a complete "Atlas of Haifa and Mt. Carmel," a project sponsored by Haifa University.

The team, headed by Dr. Arnon Soffer and Dr. Baruch Kipnis, both of Haifa University, includes experts on history from prehistoric to modern times, cartography, botany, zoology, soil science, ecology, economics, urbanology and transport.

No such atlas exists as yet. "There is no comprehensive work on Haifa and Mt. Carmel. The 1977 edition of the geography textbook used in the schools states that there are already several shops on Mt. Carmel and the standard guidebook on the area, by Zeev Vilnai, was written in 1939," the two team leaders said yesterday.

The groundwork for the projected atlas has already been done and within about five months the full draft of maps and texts will be ready, they said.

Getting the Atlas printed in colour as a standard work of lasting value called for a \$150,000 budget. Two major contributions — \$50,000 each from the municipality and the Reuven Hecht Fund — have already been received. The scientists are contributing their work, much of it the fruit of a lifetime of research,

free of charge, and the Haifa Municipality is providing free facilities. The Government Survey Department will grant copyright for its maps and print them.

A public committee is now being formed to raise the money for the publication through donations and advance subscriptions. Kipnis and Soffer estimate the cost of the volume at \$1,500 at today's prices.

The maps will be bi-lingual, in Hebrew and English. The atlas, text and tables, covering the area between Tirat Carmel, Kiryat Tivon and Acre, will be a useful source of information for decision makers in many fields, such as townplanning, business, transport, teachers, students and guides.

Fined for announcing inspector's visit

A Jerusalem man was fined \$175 in the Municipal Court yesterday for warning smokers in a cinema house that a municipal inspector had entered the auditorium.

The man spotted the inspector as soon as he entered the cinema and shouted: "The Municipal inspectors are here!" This enabled smokers to put out their cigarettes and prevented the inspector from carrying out his duty.

The offender was also asked to post a \$1,500 bond against a recurrence of the offence for a period of three years. (Him)

'Not an inch' says the Lubavitcher Rebbe

Israel should not give up an inch of the Holy Land, the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, said yesterday, according to his followers at Kfar Habad.

The scholar and spiritual leader, who lives in Brooklyn, New York, said the Torah forbids giving up the land, and that doing so would only increase the chances of renewed war. Therefore, *pinah nefesh*, the saving of life, is not an argument for giving up territory.

In his message, which was broadcast live to his followers all over the world, he said Israel should maintain a high level of arms preparedness to discourage any attack.

Refusal to let Egyptian plane land here denied

BEN-GURION AIRPORT (Him). — Security officials last night denied a report that an Egyptian plane carrying 243 passengers and 13 crew members was refused permission to land here yesterday because of security precautions.

Airport sources reported that the captain of the plane, which was en route from Cairo to Jordan, had asked to land here after being turned back from Amman airport due to fog conditions.

Security officials said the captain was asked to wait for an answer to his request, but he meanwhile changed his mind and told the control tower that he had decided to continue on to Beirut.

Hanover Jews complain of neo-Nazi threats

BONN (JTA). — The Jewish community in the north German city of Hanover has officially complained to the local district attorney about the increase in neo-Nazi activities against Jews.

Among the incidents mentioned in the complaint are "agitation and distribution of provocative literature" by members of extreme right-wing organizations who meet on Saturdays in the city's shopping centres, threats and attacks on Jews by groups of men dressed in black clothes with skull emblems, and "disturbing" telephone calls received by members of the Jewish community.

THE MOUNT HERMON ski resort yesterday opened for the season, and attracted dozens of visitors. Skiing, however, is not possible yet because the snow has reached a height of only 40 cm.

Sharm, Yamit

(Continued from page one)

Israeli sources here told The Jerusalem Post that Israel intends to leave a skeleton staff of diplomats and technical men here at the Mena House during the recess so as not to break the physical and psychological continuity of the conference.

The hotel itself has been booked by the Egyptian government for a further two weeks (the original booking will lapse tomorrow), and observers anticipate that the booking will again be extended for many long weeks and even months ahead.

For it now seems clear to informed observers on both sides that the intention is to thrash out the terms of a peace agreement here in Cairo and move to Geneva only as a late and almost formal stage. This seems the case despite the lip-service which all parties assiduously play to the Geneva Conference at every opportunity, and despite the fact that Egypt has billed the Cairo Conference as "preparatory to Geneva."

Egypt's number two negotiator here at the Cairo conference, Dr. Usama el-Baz, who is reputedly the link man between the negotiating team and Sadat himself, told Egyptian Television last night that Egypt was seeking an agreement with Israel on the principles of a peace settlement.

"The principles, he indicated, would be 'comprehensive' — that is, they would relate to all three fronts.

But Egypt could not negotiate the details of a Golan settlement nor of a West Bank-Palestinian settlement. This would have to be left to the Syrians and Palestinians respectively," he noted.

His remarks immediately set off renewed speculation that Egypt would in the final analysis — if the hardliners refuse to come in later — go it alone with Israel in a separate agreement.

The highly placed source who spoke with The Jerusalem Post contended that Israel's concern over East-West relations and the possibility of a renewed blockade there imposed by, say, South Yemen, was unfounded, and was certainly no reason for Israel to insist on maintaining its naval and air base at the tip of the Sinai peninsula.

After Egypt signs a peace agreement with Israel "the 'rejection front' will immediately collapse," he predicted derisively. "I wouldn't give Gaddafy two months to survive after that. And the Ba'athist regimes in Damascus and Baghdad will fall too."

Other hardliners, including South Yemen, would quickly fall in line behind Egypt — and the threat to Israel's shipping route to the south would automatically disappear.

After all, the source argued, it had been at Egypt's behest that the straits of Bab el-Mandeb were closed during the Yom Kippur War, and at Egypt's behest that the blockade was lifted after the war.

Once Egypt recaptured Sharm el-Sheikh — and all the rest of Sinai — there would be no political, and thus no military, reason for a blockade.

WEIZMAN

(Continued from page one)

demilitarized. Israel will also ask to retain its early-warning station at Um Hashiba as part of an arrangement whereby the Egyptians and the Americans will also retain their early-warning stations in the vicinity of the Golan Heights. Israel is also understood to want the Americans to police and monitor any agreement in the Sinai and to minimize the active role of the UN.

No specific details are available regarding the future of Sharm el-Sheikh, but there have been reports that Israel would like to lease the area from the Egyptians for a period of time. Egypt is thought to be opposed to the idea, and Israel may consider the possibility of the strategically important point being handed over to a neutral party — or perhaps named jointly by a mixed Israeli-Egyptian and American crew.

There is also strong reason to believe that with regard to oil operations in the area, Israel will propose some form of Israeli-Egyptian partnership. It is believed that another condition which still has to be adopted by either the defense minister or the Cabinet is that any Israeli withdrawal be accompanied by a unilateral reduction of the Egyptian armed forces.

This, they believe, would be both an insurance against hostile intent, and a gesture of goodwill.

With regard to the West Bank, Israeli officials are united in their opposition to Israel giving up the ridge which runs parallel to the Jordan River. These afford Israel the ability to detect, with ample warning, any hostile move from Jordanian territory.

A special problem regarding the West Bank will be the need for arrangements to contain terrorism — a security demand which may be met by Israel's insistence on a permanent military presence in the area.

Unclear as yet is whether Israel is insisting that it keep garrisons on the Jordan River — a move considered unwise by certain defence circles, who fear that these pockets of soldiers, isolated and cut off from Israel, would be vulnerable. Observers remember well the security problems posed by Israel having a small isolated garrison stationed on Mount Scopus between 1948 and 1967.

Experts call for reform in Stock Exchange operation

By SHELOMO MAOZ

Jerusalem Post Economic Reporter.

A number of financial experts have described the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange as a "casino," and suggested that unless its mode of operation is changed, it should be closed down. Testifying before the Knesset Economic Committee yesterday, the experts also called for a parallel change in the way the country's banks operate.

But Dr. Yehuda Shenhav of Tel Aviv University told the committee that the behaviour of the stock exchange in the last few months was both rational and logical. In his opinion, if shares go down by another 10 per cent they would reach a reasonable level with a reasonable multiplier.

Dr. Shenhav told the committee that the stock exchange could be improved, however, by obliging all companies operating on the exchange to publish quarterly reports in the press. He also suggested that the investing public be kept better informed through the use of such aids as closed-circuit television.

Prof. Marshall Sarnat of the Hebrew University called for a fundamental reorganization of the capital market. He told the committee that the banks and the government should be prevented from intervening in the money market, noting that there was a conflict of interest as far as the banks were concerned in that they functioned as both consultants and as

sellers at one and the same time for the Government, restrict itself to making investors are adequately informed. Prof. Sarnat suggested Knesset set up a public inquiry into the functioning of the stock market, but of market in general. He said there is extensive manipulation of the stock exchange by possessing "inside information."

Yitzhak Taub, director of Securities Authority, told the committee that securities had been issued so far this year, \$1.5 billion, in non-financial. He defended the function of the stock exchange, saying it was unable to operate without for the next 30 years.

The chairman of the Committee, Gad Ya'acobi, told the committee would conduct an investigation into the stock exchange with this end in view, he would more experts to testify at a session.

Radiomen summoned to c

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Jerusalem Labour Court yesterday ordered the three-member radio technicians' work committee to appear before it today and explain their sanctions against the Israel Broadcasting Authority.

Moshe Rosenzweig, Dov Kaminer and Roni Natan, who were summoned to appear at 11.30 this morning, following a request by executives of the authority. Meanwhile, the technicians continue their refusal to allow the broadcast of reports by several radio reporters covering the Cairo conference.

The authority's executive, headed by director-general Yitzhak Livni, decided yesterday not to release any statement about the court order to newspaper reporters, maintaining that the technicians' work action was an "internal dispute."

Rosenzweig of the work committee told The Jerusalem Post last night that the technicians are bitter about the executive's "refusal to take our complaints seriously." The current dispute broke out over the technicians' demand that more of them be sent to Cairo.

Eight reporters are working in Egypt, and "only three technicians are there to assist them," according to the work committee. The three technicians are "falling off their feet" from a round-the-clock work

schedule, they claim. The Broadcasting Authority representatives were seen result of "pressure camp," not according to professional criteria. Rosenzweig said the technicians' decision to protest their disapproval, sanctions. No reports sent on each batch of radio reports were dispatched to Cairo are being aired.

In another labour dispute involving coverage of the conference, yesterday's Arab newswire was not broadcast.

A member of the radio division of the Jerusalem Association said that these technicians' decision to protest today as well as Arab reporters protested the casting Authority's decision only three staffers to the conference. The reporters before the start of the conference were agreed that an equal Hebrew and Arabic report be sent to cover the event but the great significance of the Arab audience of Israel.

But the radio reporters only two of their colleagues, news editor were sent to Cairo to five Hebrew reports that these reporters were not for their qualifications "beyond family reasons."

Druse are not Jews?

DMC appeals ruling on it seats in Zionist Congress

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Democratic Movement for Change has filed an appeal with the court of the Zionist Congress against the ruling granting it seats in the coming congress as though it had only 13 MKs and not 15, because the remaining two are Druse, not Jews.

Announcing this at a press conference at Beit Agran in Jerusalem, yesterday, Eli Byal, head of DMC's information department, said the ruling was discriminatory and offensive to the two Druse MKs in the faction, who feel themselves Zionists.

They were elected to the DMC and were elected to the Knesset on their lists. There was no distinction of race, nationality, religion or sex in Israel's democratic elections, the appeal said.

The chairman of the Zionist Congress court is Yitzhak Kohn of the Labour party. Informed sources said that Labour might well back the DMC appeal, if Labour in turn got support for its own demand to have Moshe Dayan's original place in Labour in the May 17 Knesset elections calculated in Labour's Congress representation.

In Israel, the Congress seats are divided up according to each party's parliamentary strength. At some previous Zionist Congresses, non-Jewish MKs were calculated in a party's representation; at others they were not.

At the press conference, Premier Yigal Yadin, the of the secretariat, said the Knesset faction had not Labour over the recent reform proposal in the because it was "a demonstration which we achieved absolutely nothing."

Yadin said: "All Labour was to embarrass the DMC, has a hard decision to settle and justifiably so, because shift them from power." Yadin said that all the the government coalition absolutely committed to the next elections according to the system of proportional representation he was sure this committee be kept, unless for any sudden election were called months.

Ram Ron, the DMC said the party would put up in nearly all the mums when elections there probably a year from now. Danny Sibero, chairman council presidium, although many DMC agreed to stay politically between elections and an election time, it was easier done.

Avner Peretz, head organization department, the party membership would be the basis for the elections in five months if it extended from January the end of February.

Vet wants compensation for sterilized

HAIFA (Him). — The Defence Ministry is considering paying compensation to a man who lost his fertility when he caught the mumps during army service — and only discovered its effects five years later.

The man's claim, submitted last February, was at first dismissed by the army pensions officer because the compensation law (1959) specifies that claims must be submitted within two years of the veteran's release from service.

In the case of this claimant, who had the mumps in 1970 and completed service in 1972, five years elapsed before the claim was sub-

mitted. An attorney for the claimant appeals committee that went beyond the letter of since the claimant had to children before concluding had suffered impaired army service.

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The Committee: Rivka Guber, Sara, Ruth Bender, Anna Ben-

How to keep 'em down on the farm? 'Bring the city to the moshav'

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH

Jerusalem Post Reporter



He visited the synagogue in Alexandria on Sunday. Centre is Ben-Elissar, head of the delegation to the Cairo conference. To his right is Abie Nathan of the Voice of Peace radio ship.

T.A. promises residents less flooding

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Winter downpours will continue to bring traffic to a halt and flood low-lying areas in Tel Aviv, though not quite as much as before, Yitzhak Caspi, head of the city public works department, told reporters here yesterday.

He explained that the winter flood problems in town cannot be eliminated completely, simply because Tel Aviv lacks the underground drainage channels needed to carry off the excess water. Wherever new channels were constructed flooding has stopped, but the city cannot afford to install all the drainage facilities needed.

Nevertheless, Caspi said, in the past four years drainage projects have been in scope in comparison to what was being done before 1974, noting that this year the city has invested IL20m. for the purpose. This is in addition to the IL54m. invested in drainage work since 1974.

Work on channels has been completed in such chronic trouble spots as Jaffa's Sderot Yerushalayim, the 'L' plan area, Nahalat Yitzhak and the Derech Haifa approaches to the city.

One of the worst trouble spots, Rehov Salame, had its new channel completed just last week. Some 200 gutter drains will collect the rain water into the three metre-wide, two-metre deep channel which will carry the water out to sea. This will stop the Givat Heral area from becoming a series of fast-flowing streams after every shower, Caspi said.

Did Ehrlich agree to give Levy IL50m?

By JUDY HEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Finance Minister Simha Ehrlich yesterday denied having "any knowledge" of an agreement by the Treasury to allocate IL50m. to the Absorption Ministry for loans to returning emigrants.

Ehrlich was responding to queries by The Jerusalem Post about an announcement to that effect by Absorption Minister David Levy during the debate on immigration and emigration in the Knesset on Monday.

Levy had told the plenary (Ehrlich was not present during this part of the session) that funds to help returning emigrants buy airline tickets and send baggage to Israel would be included in the Absorption Ministry's new budget starting April 1. The amount involved, according to ministry estimates, is IL50m. although Levy did not mention this to the plenary.

At present, such loans are handled by the Jewish Agency. Levy also promised that if the government approves his recent proposal to hand over all responsibility for emigrants to his ministry, any new benefits would be accorded retroactive from next January 1.

Levy's spokesman told The Post that Ehrlich had agreed to allocate the funds in a brief meeting between the two ministers shortly before the Knesset session.

But Ehrlich stated yesterday that "I never promised Levy anything, not even 50 aporot. He never asked me for anything."

The incident came a few months after a similar disagreement between Levy and Ehrlich over what they had agreed in discussions on handling of immigrant mortgages.

In the end, the Absorption Ministry was authorized to approve loans and send referrals directly to the immigrant, without intervention by other ministries.

Observers commented that Ehrlich has been caught between conflicting pressures in his Liberal Party and Levy's Herut.

Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister Yigael Yadin told top officials of the Absorption Ministry yesterday that it would be an "impossible situation" if any body other than the government were responsible for the absorption of new immigrants.

In a visit to Levy's office yesterday morning as part of a series of wife's release after she was held for five days, after paying \$2m.

calls on ministers that deal with social issues, Yadin stated that when a Knesset Member asks a parliamentary question about immigrants' problems, he should be answered by a minister and not referred to some other address. "We must not create an enclave of immigrants who are looked after by some outside jurisdiction," he said.

Yadin was responding to pleas from Levy that the government decide immediately whether the government or the Jewish Agency will handle immigration and absorption. Yadin did not reveal whether he favoured a total transfer of responsibility for both to the ministry, as Levy has been demanding for months.

The deputy prime minister complained that the state has erred by "too often depicting the immigrant and immigration as if they were a burden." Instead, he said, the contribution from and need for immigration should be emphasized every day.

Yadin later visited new immigrants in several Jerusalem neighbourhoods and spoke with immigrant pupils at the Rehavia Gymnasium, of which he is a graduate.

Reporter revealed malnutrition 7 years ago

anger at Beit Tina — nothing new

By SUSAN BELLOS
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Officials have known for years of at least one case of trichinosis at Beit Tina, the institution for the retarded in a town where two adolescents died last year, apparently of trichinosis.

Directors of the institution, Yehuda and Tina Peled, are to be before a Tel Aviv District judge today.

A year ago this reporter published a story about the pictures of a patient there, a 7-year-old boy suffering from malnutrition and convulsions, his back to the late Michael Peled, then Minister of Social Affairs. At the time, Peled said the institution must no longer be a place of profit for individuals, institutions for the retarded taken over by the State.

Report on conditions at Beit Tina was made available to Peled in 1971 by the Association for the Care of Civil Rights which took over the case of the boy, Shimon, after his exposure in The Jerusalem Post. The association's chairman was Tel Aviv

lawyer Uri Reichman, presented a detailed report to Peled which revealed persistent undernourishment, evidence of beatings, severe overcrowding, and regular administration of doses of tranquilizers exceeding levels acceptable to the ministry.

According to Reichman, 50 deaths have taken place at Beit Tina over the past 15 years. One was the manslaughter of a child by another inmate.

Police are investigating the 50 cases, some of which may reflect the general tendency of retarded persons in institutions to die earlier than their peers outside institutions.

When the association's investigating committee, composed of physicians and lawyers who had no connection with the ministry, presented their report to Peled, he promised to eliminate private institutions. Shimon Peled, described earlier this week as "qualified" by the director of ministry services for the retarded, meanwhile remained in charge of Beit Tina.

Abraham Langerman, now director-general of the social affairs section in the Ministry of Labour and Social

Affairs, was director of the Youth Service (in the Welfare Ministry) seven years ago and therefore responsible for the care of retarded children. He was aware of conditions there, he told The Post yesterday, and noted that "many improvements" had been made at Beit Tina following the Reichman Report. However, two years later he transferred to another section of the Welfare Ministry.

Appointed director-general of that ministry two years ago, he initiated an investigation into private institutions for the retarded. Three out of 18 were shut down, but Beit Tina was found to be satisfactory.

Police investigating the two latest deaths leaked the case to the press last week. On Sunday, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs announced the formation of its own inquiry committee, headed by legal adviser Arye Brick.

Minister Israel Katz said yesterday that only the results of the inquiry would indicate whether or not to close down Beit Tina, but he had meanwhile put a "highly qualified person" in charge of the institution.

Ex-kidnap victim here 'to escape reporters'

By YA'ACOV ARDON
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Lotte Boehm, the wife of a Jewish-Austrian Lezille millionaire, who was kidnapped last week by political extremists and released for a ransom of about \$2m., has arrived here with her husband Leopold for a short holiday.

Lotte Boehm was dragged from her car near the couple's home in the Vienna suburb of Grinzing on the evening of December 13 while her husband was on a business trip to Milan.

Hearing of the abduction, Leopold Boehm immediately hired a plane, and flew home to take charge of the negotiations with the kidnapers. He ignored the police and obtained his

release after she was held for five days, after paying \$2m.

The kidnapers' members of a political extremist group, told Mrs. Boehm that they sympathize with the Baader-Meinhof gangs and kidnapped her for the ransom which would be used to finance their operations.

Boehm told reporters on Monday night that during the negotiations with the kidnapers "Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky had offered his help at any time of the day or night. Boehm declined official intervention and decided to play it alone. He explained that a book had been published last year listing him among the 100 richest people in Austria — an invitation to kid-

nappers and blackmailers, as he put it. The fact that he is Jewish had nothing to do with the terrorists' choice of the victim, he asserted.

Boehm said they had come for a holiday in Israel, where they have many friends and family, to "get away from the reporters who were hounding us" in Vienna.

Boehm had lived in Israel for 14 years between 1959, when he escaped from the Nazis, and 1973 when he returned to Vienna to build up a successful business empire — he owns a chain of 400 stores.

Asked why they had chosen Israel for their holiday, Boehm said: "We feel well here. We come here twice a year and have been steady visitors for the past 16 or 17 years."

Katzir urges Judaic study

By AARON SEITNER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Israel has become a substitute for the synagogue for non-religious Jews. Ezer Nitzan, Katzir said yesterday.

The President said this while hosting the Knesset Committee on Immigration and Absorption.

By serving in lieu of a house of worship, Katzir asserted, the State must initiate "Judaic studies in depth" for young Jews abroad or else "face the inevitable: the end of immigration and the end of Jewishness."

The President also warned Israelis against committing the "unforgivable sin" of viewing leaders of Jewish communities abroad as being mainly sources of financial assistance to Israel, rather than "men of culture and spirit."

While the older generation of Jewish leaders may have been mostly business people, today's leaders — and their children — are 80 per cent university trained, he pointed out to the committee members.

Committee chairman Gula Cohen showed Katzir the committee's docket, and repeated her proposal that the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization hand over all immigration duties to the government.

Irate investors protest gov't inaction on T.A. bus station

Two angry crowds of persons who had invested in the new Tel Aviv central bus station burst into the office of Finance Minister Simha Ehrlich in Jerusalem and of Egged in Tel Aviv yesterday to back their demands for government intervention to save the mammoth construction project.

Work on construction of the bus station complex, which was to include a large shopping centre, has been halted for more than a year. The consortium of builders could not raise the money to complete the project. The Ministers of Finance, Transport, and Justice decided last week not to pump government money into the bus station, as the former government had intended to. The liquidation procedures for the Kikar Levisky company was to proceed in the courts, the ministers said.

Most of the 60 persons, who demonstrated yesterday in Jerusalem had invested their money in floor-space for shops in the planned complex. They burst into the Finance Minister's offices at about 11 a.m., claiming that because of the government's refusal to take over

the company, they would each stand to lose hundreds of thousands of pounds which they had invested in the late 1960s or early 1970s.

Police were called to the scene and at 12 p.m. Finance Minister Ehrlich and Transport Minister Meir Amit met with five representatives of the protesting investors. Ehrlich told them that notwithstanding the ministers' decision not to intervene, the government may reach some kind of arrangement with the official receiver after the start of liquidation proceedings.

Amit told the representatives that though he understands their problem, his ministry's budget would not allow commitments that could total hundreds of millions of pounds.

Later in the day, another group of 50 investors burst into the Egged's office in Tel Aviv to protest Egged's part in the failure of the bus station project. Egged, Shlomo Ben-Zur, and co-trustee Arye Pilz are the shareholders in the Kikar Levisky company. After police were called to the scene to calm the irate investors, several of their representatives met with Egged directors. (Him)

Escaped convict after 10-month alleged crime spree

By JUDY HEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

SHIMESH (Him). — An 18-year-old escaped convict has been arrested after allegedly terrorizing a woman and the surrounding area in the two months he has been on the loose.

The victim, of Meshah S'ot, stole more than 50 cars, into five shops and shot two men in the course of his two-month crime spree.

He tried to apprehend him on a number of occasions, but each time he escaped. In one incident he shot a man in the head, and in another a dramatic tussle in a car, that police sergeant David Heral in the hand.

According to the police, the latter took place on a forest road in the Jerusalem Corridor. Sazal pulled Atlas driving a car so to stop him by throwing on the bonnet of the moving Atlas carried on driving at speed, with the policeman in the windshield. Heral managed to get one arm

inside the car and switched off the ignition. But Atlas got away after allegedly shooting the policeman in the hand.

Atlas was remanded for 15 days in the Beit Shmesh Magistrate's Court yesterday. He is said to be cooperating with the police, who have reported recovering stolen property — including cigarettes and liquor — worth thousands of pounds.

It was not immediately known how Atlas was finally caught.

Budget for testing new warplane engines
BEN-GURION AIRPORT (Him). — The Israel Aircraft Industries management this week approved a US\$1m. budget for maintenance and inspection of a new generation of engines for air force warplanes.

The new General Electric engines drive the F-15 planes now in the Air Force and F-4s which Israel has asked to buy from the U.S.

Police investigate VIP treatment for convict

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The police spokesman yesterday confirmed that national police headquarters are investigating the possible abuse of prison rules in which a prisoner given special privileges — such as the use of a police car to carry on business.

The case allegedly concerns former prisoner Ramli Lev, an earth-moving contractor, convicted of fraud in connection with Defence Ministry contracts. Lev was reportedly transferred from the Beersheba prison to the Elahon lookup near Haifa, at the request of a Haifa police official. The lookup, which is supervised by the police rather than the Prisons Service.

While in the lookup, Lev was allegedly given use of a police vehicle so that he could carry on his business. His stay in Haifa reportedly ended abruptly when the Haifa police commander learned of the matter and sent him back to the prison.

Wrestler withdraws suit

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Former wrestler Raphael Halperin on Monday withdrew his suit against the Israel Broadcasting Authority and Yaron London in the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court.

Halperin, who is now studying full time in a Bnei Brak yeshiva, had claimed that he was ridiculed on the "Ale Koteret" (Behind the Headlines) programme, where London is the host, when he recently demonstrated his skill at shattering rocks with his bare hands.

The Jerusalem Post learned that a compromise was reached between TV director Arnon Zuckerman and Halperin that the former wrestler would drop the suit if he were invited again to "Ale Koteret." Halperin appeared on the late night show last week to speak about a historical atlas of Jewish sages that he had compiled.

Junior racquetman does fine down under

Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Israel's under-14 tennis champion Eilon Sinai last week achieved one of the best-ever victories by a local junior in international competition, when he won the boys' under-18 singles crown in the Brisbane open tournament in Australia.

Playing on grass, 14-year-old Sinai took the prestigious title with a 6-1, 6-4 last-round success against Greg Miller, one of Queensland's leading youngsters in his age group. This was sweet revenge for Miller's 7-6, 6-4 defeat of Sinai's team-mate Shahar Perlis in the second round of the meet.

Sinai and Perlis are now half way through a two-month programme of training and tournament competition in Australia.

In Miami Beach late last week, Israel — represented by Shai Puni and Tommy Frischer — lost 0-2 to West Germany in the second round of world junior championships.

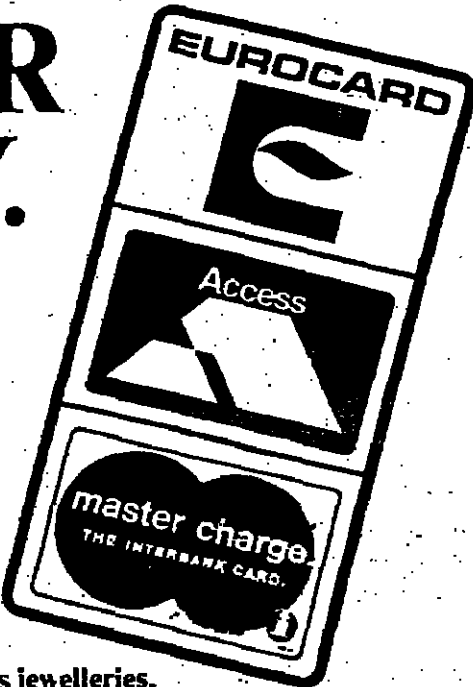
Sunshine Cup competition. Then in the consolation tournament of the 32-nation meet, Israel was beaten by Britain with the same score in the opening round. Last year in Miami, Israel scored an upset 2-0 victory over England in the final of this consolation event, to win the Smathers Bowl.

Dog finds drugs

TEL AVIV. — A drug-sniffing police dog uncovered a cache of hashish in the closet of a suspected Hadiva Quarter pusher yesterday.

According to police, an undercover detective purchased a quantity of the drug from the dealer on a street corner, paying with marked bills. He then arrested the man and, with the aid of the dog, the suspect's apartment was searched and eight grams of the drug were snuffed out.

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Tough battles in ninth basketball round

By STEVE KAPLAN
Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter

Monday night's ninth round of the National Basketball League's first division showed that neither top teams are in a mid-season slump or the bottom teams are getting better.

Haifa Hapoel again proved they are a team to be reckoned with by throwing a scare into Tel Aviv Maccabi. In the central game of the round played at Tel Aviv's Yehuda Sports Palace, the European champions had to extend themselves to score their ninth straight league win this year. In the first half the game saw the lead changing hands many times, and ended with Maccabi on top with a precarious 47-46 advantage.

After the intermission, the home team woke up some and ran their lead to 84-70 before Haifa rallied, coming to within 90-88 with a minute left.

Key Berkowitz hit foul shots and Bob Griffin sank the last basket, making the final score 84-88. Jim Boatwright was high man for the winners with 28 points, while Zvi Inbar equalled that total for the losers.

Second place Tel Aviv Hapoel also had their hands full with ninth place Tel Aviv Elitzur at Be'er Yitzhak. Playing without John Willis or Pinhas Hoses, Hapoel trailed for much of the game. With Hapoel down 69-53, the injured Willis entered the game and helped turn it around. Hapoel came out on top, 89-84. Sam Founsett was the big man for the losers with 18 points, while Barry Leibowitz's 19 led Hapoel.

Fourth place Ramat Gan Hapoel was the only top-ranked team to rout their opponents, chalking up a 102-70 win over next-to-last place Tel Aviv Beter in Shteytym. The first half told the story as Ramat Gan raced to a 44-25 halftime lead. The second half saw both benches emptied as the coaches let the younger players gain some experience.

Gvat/Yagur Hapoel beat an ambitious Afula Hapoel squad in Afula, thanks to the continued string of outstanding games put together by centre Boaz Yanai. This time his 38 points were instrumental in keeping Afula at arm's length for the full 40 minutes. The home squad made some gallant runs at Gvat, but were

plagued by poor handling at crucial junctures, falling 81-82. Steve Dromer led Afula with 26 points.

South Tel Aviv Maccabi was stalled in the first half of their game in Tel Aviv against Givat Brenner/Na'an Hapoel, before Ron Busani got them into high gear. With Tel Aviv trailing 25-22 in the first half, Busani started his teammates running and they did not stop until the final whistle, winning 105-80, with playmaker Busani scoring 34 points.

In Haifa, last place Haifa Maccabi made another gallant try but failed for the ninth time, losing 75-88. They could not hold on to a 7 point half time lead in a game full of mistakes and not fitting for a top division game.

Standings

1. Tel Aviv Maccabi	9-4	38
2. Tel Aviv Hapoel	7-2	28
3. Haifa Hapoel	7-4	26
4. Ramat Gan Hapoel	7-3	26
5. Gvat/Yagur Hapoel	6-3	25
6. Ramat Gan Maccabi	4-5	23
7. Afula Hapoel	4-5	23
8. South Tel Aviv Maccabi	4-5	23
9. Tel Aviv Elitzur	2-7	11
10. Givat Brenner/Na'an Hapoel	2-7	11
11. Tel Aviv Beter	2-7	11
12. Haifa Maccabi	0-9	0

Course in Kabbalah

for beginner and advanced students in Hebrew and English.

Registration in Tel Aviv: December 21, 1977 from 6.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. at Beit Snel Brith, Rehov Ziklan.

Course begins on December 21, 1977.

Jerusalem: December 22, 25, 26, 1977 from 6.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. at Beit Agon, Rehov Eliezer, Tel. 02-514660. Course begins December 26, 1977.

South African Zionist Federation and Tour Va'aleh
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OFFICIAL OPENING of our **ALIYA INFORMATION CENTRE**
109 Hayarkon Street, Tel Aviv, on Thursday, December 22, 7 p.m.
The Centre is now open daily, 9 a.m. — 5 p.m. Sun. — Thurs. and 9 a.m. — 12 noon Fridays.
You can register at the Centre for the Free TOUR TO CARMIEL which takes place every Tuesday. Registration essential by the Sunday before the Tour, or phone 244788 (the Centre) or 290131 (the S.A. Zionist Federation Office, 5, Beit Clal, Druyanov Street, Tel Aviv.)
Ask at the Centre or the Office about other activities for visitors, including the English play, JERUSALEM SPY STORY, and PANEL AND FILM EVENING every Wednesday night.

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'Coptic Pope not coming for Xmas'

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Officials in Jerusalem yesterday denied that the head of the Egyptian Coptic church would come to Jerusalem for Christmas — despite press reports to the contrary.

According to Cairo papers and the Arabic press in East Jerusalem, Pope Shenouda II, spiritual leader of the community which comprises about 7 per cent of the Egyptian population, decided to come following the Sadat visit to Jerusalem. The Copts are often referred to as the original Egyptians, and the Coptic language, still used in church ritual, was spoken in Egypt before the Arab conquest.

But the office of the Coptic Archbishop in Jerusalem said no visit was planned. One Israeli official pointed out that the office may not want to confirm the visit until there is no doubt that it will take place. There is still some time left for arrangements, as the Copts, like the Greek Orthodox, celebrate Christmas on January 6.

Meanwhile Israel Television is planning ahead for the possible visit. Nur Edin Dirini, who is in charge of Christian and Moslem religious ceremonies on Israel TV, said that if the Pope comes, his part in the celebration at Bethlehem would be broadcast by satellite to Egypt.

With Christmas day (next Sunday) approaching, the Jewish National Fund announced that it has distributed 1,500 cypress saplings to church officials, diplomats and UN personnel for use as Christmas trees. The saplings were collected as part of the thinning-out process in the JNF's forests.

Majority of degrees in humanities

More than twice as many students received degrees in the humanities than in science last year, according to a recent report from the Central Bureau of Statistics.

The combined total of science and engineering graduates, 33.5 per cent of all those who received degrees last year — comes near to but does not equal the total for the humanities, which is 34.7 per cent.

Altogether, 9,800 Israeli students were awarded degrees or other forms of certification last year. Of these, 6,800 completed their first degrees, 1,400 the M.A. or equivalent, and 300 were awarded doctorates. Israel produced 280 medical doctors during the period, and about 1,000 students got diplomas, mostly in education.

The Hebrew University produced the most graduates, with 31.8 per cent. Tel Aviv University had 24.1 per cent, 14.7 per cent came from the Technion, 10.5 per cent from Bar-Ilan University, 8.6 per cent from Haifa University, 7.5 per cent from the Ben-Gurion University and 1.4 per cent from the Weizmann Institute.

The report notes that the number of graduates grew between 1970 and 1977 by 75 per cent. Most of the increase took place in the early 'seventies.

Indonesia releases 10,000 prisoners

BURU ISLAND, Indonesia (Reuters). — Indonesia yesterday released 10,000 of its political prisoners, including 1,500 who sailed to freedom from this remote prison island after 12 years of detention without trial.

The prisoners, who were forced to grow their own food in the steaming swamps and jungles of this tropical island in the Moluccas group, over 2,000 kilometres from the Indonesian capital, Jakarta, were given new clothes and leather shoes and put on board two warships.

Their departure for Surabaya, Java, and a Christmas reunion with their families was the most dramatic part of President Suharto's programme to erase the memory of a bloody but abortive Communist coup 12 years ago. Over 600,000 people died in its violent aftermath.

The 10,000 prisoners, alleged hardcore Communists and sympathizers, were set free across the country in a move which could help improve Indonesia's ties with Communist countries.

A further 20,000 prisoners remain in camps throughout the country, but the government has promised to release them within two years.

Foreign journalists allowed to visit the penal colony for the past three days heard many complaints from prisoners about living conditions.

But on their release all detainees repeated an oath of allegiance which also condoned all government actions against them. It ended with the words: "I swear, without any pressure from anyone and of my own free will."

The releases have been attacked by foreign human rights organizations such as the London-based Amnesty International on the grounds that many, if not most, prisoners will be unable to return to their former home towns.

The government has said that prisoners who are not reaccepted into their families and do not find employment in their home towns will be resettled outside over-populated Java under a general transmigration programme.

The government believes that released prisoners who are unable to find employment — in a country where unemployment is estimated at up to 40 per cent — might easily be swayed by radical movements.

Vietnam to release prisoners in 'goodwill gesture' to U.S.

PARIS (UPI). — In a set of goodwill gestures, Vietnam announced yesterday it will carry on its talks with Washington about establishing normal relations, release a captured American yacht before the new year and learn U.S. techniques for identifying war dead.

The decisions were announced at the end of the third two-day round of talks this year between President Carter's chief troubleshooter for Vietnamese problems, Richard Holbrooke, and Vietnam's veteran peace negotiator, Deputy Foreign Minister Phan Eden.

Winding up more than eight hours of talks at the Vietnamese embassy, the two delegations announced in largely identical terms:

• Their third meeting in Paris this year — the previous having been

held in May and June — was "frank, positive and cordial" and they will hold a new meeting at a mutually agreed date and place.

• Hanoi informed Holbrooke that the three crew members of the U.S. yacht Brillig, captured by the Vietnamese coast guard on October 12, will be freed and returned home before the year's end. Hanoi thus dropped previous threats to try the Americans aboard for drug trafficking.

• To help improve its technique of identification of war dead — 2,250 Americans are still missing in Vietnam — Hanoi agreed to send a team of experts to the Central Identification Laboratory and the Joint Casualty Resolution Centre in Hawaii next spring.

U.S. attacks 'extravagant' UN spending

UNITED NATIONS (AP). — The U.S. said on Monday it will abstain from voting for the 1978-79 UN budget and may oppose future budgets unless "extravagant" programmes are restricted and "outdated and obsolete" ones are cancelled.

The U.S. already voted against 40 per cent of the appropriation proposals now before the budget committee. The committee votes on appropriations in sections and the package is then sent to the General Assembly for final approval.

U.S. Congressman Lester Wolff told the budget committee the UN should keep statistics for personnel "in line" and reschedule the budget assessments of member states.

Wolff said, "My government will be compelled to consider very seriously voting against the full UN budget presentations in the future" unless there is fiscal restraint and a change in the assessment structure, under which the U.S. now pays 25 per cent of the UN budget — about \$500m. a year.

The percentage was set by the General Assembly in 1972 and is the largest for any country.

Wolff expressed "a great disappointment" that Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim had failed to take action on Assembly resolutions to set spending priorities. He also said it was not "prudent" of Waldheim to upgrade certain staff positions with higher pay in the absence of a study justifying it.

Dutch jail West German terrorist

UTRECHT, Holland (Reuters). — A Dutch court yesterday sentenced West German urban guerrilla Knut Folkerts to 20 years imprisonment for the murder of a policeman, rejecting arguments that he was a resistance fighter against imperialism.

Folkerts, a leading member of the Red Army Faction, once known as the Baader-Meinhof gang, chose to stay out of the courtroom as the verdict of the three-man bench was read.

Police with steel helmets, carbines and bullet-proof vests patrolled inside and outside the court building. Nearby streets were sealed off and all journalists and spectators were searched as they entered the building.

The court found the 25-year-old German guilty of the "cold-blooded and premeditated" murder of Detective Sergeant Arie Kranenburg, 46, shot in the back in a gunbattle on September 22. (Reuters, UPI)

French police rob old widow

PARIS (Reuters). — Three policemen robbed an 80-year-old widow of more than 50,000 francs (US\$157,000) last week.

The Interior Ministry admitted yesterday the three had not been crooks in disguise, but real policemen. It refused to give their names, but said they had been suspended pending investigations.

Delay in oil price decision seen as Opec conference opens in Caracas

CARACAS (AP). — Venezuela's President Carlos Andres Perez yesterday asked the major oil exporting countries of the world to raise prices by \$10 a barrel next year and dedicate the added revenue to paying off some of the debts of the world's poorest nations.

In his opening address to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, Perez estimated that these debts total \$180b., four times the total of 1973.

"The lesser ability of these countries to pay even the interest on these debts and the decrease in the buying power of the funds they do earn threaten a catastrophe," he said.

The 13 OPEC countries are meeting here to set prices for 1978.

Before the first session the president of OPEC, Abdul Aziz Bin-Khalifa al-Thani, of Qatar, told newsmen that the three choices before OPEC were to raise prices moderately, freeze them for six or 12 months or take prices off the agenda for consideration some other time.

The last course would leave the matter unresolved, but would not as some believe, constitute a *de facto* freeze. Any final increase could easily be hacked, and there

are many precedents for this.

Immediately after the Perez speech, al-Thani adjourned the meeting for four hours.

Though he declined to be drawn out during his morning press conference, al-Thani put much more stress than had other sources on the possibility of delaying a price decision.

Perez also referred in his speech to the possibility of an extraordinary session of Opec to discuss his loan-repayment proposal, adding fuel to the idea of a delay in price-setting.

Al-Thani also said that he found the idea of shifting away from the dollar in setting oil prices "ideal and practical," but he said that his judgment was that the current weakness in the dollar would be resolved "in coming months... possibly by the end of the first quarter" next year.

He said that the price issue could be settled "within two or three hours," but then said that the Opec meeting could last a day or two, the usual schedule.

The 13 Opec oil ministers are to take up the price issue today.

Pope condemns terrorism, world violence

VATICAN CITY. — Pope Paul said in his 1978 peace message yesterday that violence was spreading throughout the world and becoming an everyday part of life.

In his 11th annual day of peace message, the 80-year-old Pontiff roundly condemned "pitiless terrorism" and "deplorable forms of repression."

"Our war against war has not yet been won," the Pontiff declared, "and our 'yes' to peace is rather something wished for than something real."

Then he cited, apparently referring to the Middle East, the possibility of future conflicts "in many geographical and political situations which have not been settled in just and peaceful solutions."

The Pope devoted a third of his message to denouncing violence — a major theme of his 14-year reign.

Demirel gov't losing support

AN KARA (Reuters). — Two more parliamentary deputies resigned from Premier Suleyman Demirel's Justice Party (JP) yesterday, bringing the tripartite coalition government's seats in the 450-member lower house of the assembly down to 218.

The two deputies, Enver Akova and Ahmet Karaaslan, are expected to join a new group which comprises nine others who have quit the JP and one original independent.

The 10 issued a joint declaration at the weekend, criticizing the JP leadership for continuing the present coalition, and stating they would support a government "which upholds Turkey's national interests."

The opposition Republican People's Party (RPP), which is the biggest single group in the lower house with 214 seats, is now even closer to a return to power.

Canada to cut trade ties with S. Africa

OTTAWA (AP). — Canada said on Monday it will end all government support for commercial relations with South Africa, including withdrawing commercial consuls at Cape Town and closing the Canadian consulate at Johannesburg.

The government also will cease the support given by its Export Development Corp. to companies trading with South Africa and will prepare a code of ethics for any Canadian companies operating in the country.

Foreign Secretary Don Jamieson told the House of Commons.

Jamieson said government representatives will remain in the capital, Pretoria, since it would not be advisable to sever all diplomatic relations.

Meanwhile, the South African Defence Minister said in Pretoria yesterday that France had told South Africa it cannot honour certain defence contracts — believed to include the supply of submarines.

Moses walked on the Rocks

...You can dance on them.

great music great drinks

...a great way to spend a night on the town in Tel Aviv

on the rocks

at the new

Tel Aviv Sheraton Hotel

115 Hayarkon Street, Tel Aviv, Tel. 286222



SIGHTSEER. — Members of the Washington press corps began singing "See the pyramids along the Nile" on Monday when White House Press Secretary Jody Powell convened his daily press briefing. The musical allusion was to an alleged incident at a weekend dinner party given by TV newscaster Barbara Walters in honour of Israeli Ambassador Simha Dinitz and Egyptian Ambassador Ashraf Ghorbal. President Carter's top aide, Hamilton Jordan, was Mrs. Ghorbal's dinner partner, and reports have it that he pulled down the top of her gown and remarked, "Now I have seen two of the Egyptian pyramids." Powell denied the incident had taken place. Mrs. Ghorbal and Hamilton are shown above. (AP radiophoto)

Pakistan 'holy man' says he is oldest in the world, at 154

BONN (UPI). — A Pakistani "holy man" who claims to be the oldest person in the world will celebrate his 154th birthday on Friday in the home of a Pakistani physician he met during one of the 84 pilgrimages he says he has made to Mecca.

Al Syed Abdul Ilani told his host that since a 170-year-old Libyan woman died in 1976, he has been the oldest person in the world.

Ilani came to Germany as the guest of Dr. Khan Habib Ulla, a Pakistani who has lived in Germany for 25 years and maintains a medical practice near the town of Saad Duerkheim for the last five years.

Dr. Khan said in a telephone interview that he met Ilani during a pilgrimage to Mecca a year ago.

"The pilgrims were hanging around him like bees around honey," Dr. Khan said. Since then, Ilani has

visited Dr. Khan in Germany twice.

Although Ilani is stooped, he has good eyesight and hearing and his mind is clear, Dr. Khan said.

Photographers who took pictures of the two toasting a bowl with several of Dr. Khan's seven children this week said they had the same impression.

Dr. Khan said Ilani was born in an alley in the Karakoram mountain range on the border between Pakistan and China on December 23, 1823. That date has been entered in the passport issued to Ilani by the Pakistani government.

"Of course, no birth certificates were issued at that time," Dr. Khan said, "but the father of Mohammed Iqbal knew him well. Iqbal, who died in 1938, is known as the 'father of Pakistan.'"

"Ilani was a guerrilla fighter in the war against the British in 1857, and was wounded in the head," Dr. Khan said.

\$12m. luxury yacht nearing completion for Saudi Arabia's King Khaled

AMSTERDAM (AP). — Shipyard workers are putting the finishing touches on a \$12m million 65-metre luxury yacht being built in the Netherlands for King Khaled of Saudi Arabia.

Among other things, the yacht has three decks, a helicopter platform, an operating room, a swimming pool, a sauna, a barber shop and gymnasium. "It is without doubt the most luxurious yacht that has ever been built," said H.C. Van Gerven, managing director of the Van Lent shipyards company at Kaag, some 32 km. south of here.

All fixtures on board the yacht are gold plated, and a leading French designer took care of the decorations. The vessel has four royal suites complete with separate bedrooms, sitting rooms and

bathrooms. There are also six double guest rooms for persons described as "non-royal" visitors.

The builders are still readying the yacht, but in about two weeks it will sail from the island port of Kaag to Ijmuiden near Amsterdam for a final inspection.

"If everything is acceptable, the yacht will then be sailed to Saudi Arabia by Sir John Onslow, a Briton associated with the Van Lent company for many years. He will also command the vessel for the king during its first year in the water."

SHOTGUN. — Nearly one in three girls marrying in Britain before her 20th birthday is pregnant on her wedding day, according to a government report on social trends released yesterday.

'Jane's' Soviets may soon have 'ray gun'

LONDON (AP). — The Soviet Union may be working on a "lightning-like" energy ray weapon resembling the "ray gun" of science fiction, the editor of "Jane's Weapon Systems" claims in a forward to the 1978 edition to be published tomorrow.

Analyzing the delicate balance between the superpowers, editor Ronald T. Pretty also said it is vital for the U.S. to press ahead with the development of the neutron bomb until there is concrete evidence that the Soviet Union has no plans for deploying a similar weapon.

"The boxer who enters the ring with one hand tied behind his back — for whatever high moral purpose — gets no bonus points from the judges, and also stands a very good chance of losing the bout," he wrote in his foreword.

U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who is pondering a final decision on the neutron bomb, got another message from the editor of the authoritative reference book:

"America's European allies, living close to the Soviet and Warsaw Pact military threat, need their own stockpile of U.S. cruise missiles."

The 1,000-page "Jane's Weapon Systems" is one of a series of Jane's reference works on military and civilian transport and weapons, and is compiled by Pretty and his editorial staff from both official and unofficial sources.

Discussing the emergence of a new ray-like weapon that could obliterate a target with a powerful beam of energy, Pretty said a U.S. Air Force scientific intelligence committee is reported to have evidence that components of the Soviet version have already been tested, but conclusive

data are lacking.

The existence of a completed "directed energy weapon" is so far unconfirmed and U.S. defence experts disagree on what progress the Soviets are making, he added.

He said the weapon could replace the anti-ballistic missile (ABM) as the next form of nuclear defence.

Two types are envisioned: the laser beam, using amplified light waves, and the "charged particle beam" or CPB.

A CPB weapon, possibly powered by nuclear fusion, would send a stream of atomic particles toward its target at the speed of light, delivering destructive levels of energy.

The danger to the West may not be immediate, said Pretty, thanks to the U.S.-newly designed missile which can be launched from air, land, or submarine, hugging the terrain and dodging detection as it flies toward its target.

The low-flying cruise should be able to skirt both conventional ABM defences and, in all probability, any CPB energy beam defence the Soviets deploy, the editor said.

But the U.S. is nevertheless funding research into both laser and CPB technology as a precaution, he reported.

"Our own view on CPB weapons is that for those who fear their development, the sooner we hear that they will not work, the better. The longer news of progress toward an answer one way or another is withheld, the greater the chances are that either the Soviet Union or the U.S.A. has succeeded," said Pretty.

Top American defence experts disagree on how close the Soviets are to creating the new device, he said.

Soviet flu resists vaccines

MOSCOW (UPI). — The Soviet Union has a costly Christmas present for the rest of the world — a highly contagious strain of influenza resistant to all vaccines.

Since the first case was spotted in the Soviet Far Eastern port city of Khabarovsk a month ago, an epidemic has swept the Soviet Union. An official of the Health Ministry estimated 20 million Soviet citizens would be hit.

So far no deaths have been reported.

Western diplomats have speculated that one of the flu victims may be President Leonid Brezhnev, who disappeared from public view

on December 8.

The virus, called type A1, cut outbreaks throughout the world (later to 1977) when it gave way to Asian flu. The world's stocks of vaccine are based on the A2 Asian virus and have little effect on the virus, experts said.

Minor outbreaks of the A1 flu occurred in Hongkong, southeast Asia, but so far the other country in Europe which reported any cases is Italy.

A case usually lasts five to 10 days and the symptoms are the same as for Asian flu — high fever, headache, muscular pain, general weakness.

Soviet cosmonauts take a walk

MOSCOW (UPI). — Two Soviet cosmonauts took a walk in outer space yesterday and gave a clean bill of health to a troublesome docking device.

Cosmonauts Yuri Romanenko and Georgy Grechko spent one hour 28 minutes outside the Salyut 6 space station inspecting the main docking unit and beaming colour television images of the ship and earth down to ground control.

The official Soviet news agency Tass said that after a detailed inspection of the docking unit by engineer Grechko, the cosmonauts declared it was now in proper working order.

That pronouncement could be the way for the Soviets to link up with Salyut 6 and the first docking the Soviets have carried out.

Romanenko and Grechko were new type of semi-rigid space suits featuring a large hinged hatch which opens the entire back of the suit, shoulders to waist for ease of exit.

The Soyuz 23 manned mission October was aborted when space capsule was unable to link with Salyut 6. The present team been in space since December

Moscow paper denounces Peking's 3rd World stand, support of Sadat

MOSCOW (UPI). — An influential Soviet Communist Party journal yesterday denounced what it called Peking's dangerous policies toward the Third World.

The journal "Partinaya Zhizn," published by the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, said, "Peking leadership continues to pursue, in respect of the developing countries, a reactionary policy that is hostile to the cause of Socialism and is advantageous solely to imperialist neo-colonialist circles and their agents in the Third World."

"Present Peking leaders are following the Mao Tse-tung line of turning the zone of the national liberation movement into a sphere of their influence," the journal said.

The Central Committee for charged that Peking had joined U.S. and South Africa in movements against the Arab government — and were hindering Angolan admission to the UN.

It added that the Chinese were giving support to Somalia in its war with neighbouring Ethiopia and "Peking is also encouraging interference into Ethiopian affairs reactionary Arab regimes."

"Lately Peking propaganda is touting praise on Sadat's policy... time when the entire Arab world denounces the Egyptian president's move to Jerusalem and his attempt to secure a separate deal with Israel Partinaya Zhizn said.

UN tells Israel to pay for holding territories

UNITED NATIONS (AP). — The General Assembly overwhelmingly approved a resolution yesterday demanding full Israeli compensation for the losses and damages sustained by the Arabs in the Israel-occupied territories.

The resolution, adopted by a vote of 109-35 with 28 abstentions, declares that all measures by Israel "to exploit the human, natural and all other resources" are illegal and calls on Israel to desist forthwith from all such practices.

The "no" votes were cast by Israel, the U.S. and Australia. Among the abstainers were most of the Western European and some Latin American nations.

Sadat's initiative see helping Carter in pol

NEW YORK (AP). — President Carter's popularity increased per cent last month, apparently result of Egyptian President Sadat's peace initiative in the Middle East, according to the Harris survey.

Harris' latest national telephone poll of 1,200 adults, dated from December 15-16, found that 50 per cent of those questioned approve Carter's overall performance a per cent disapproved. Two per were undecided.

Last month, 46 per cent Carter a positive rating, 32 per gave him a negative rating and cent were undecided. It was Cui lowest rating since taking office

Chinese simplifying their language

PEKING (Reuters). — The government yesterday proposed for popular use 853 more Chinese characters in simplified form and indicated that its ultimate aim remained the Romanization of the language with a phonetic alphabet.

This brings to 3,093 the number of characters simplified out of a target of 4,600.

Written Chinese has at least 50,000 ideographs originating from pictorial representations and using a varying number of strokes. The "teng" part of Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping's name, for example, has 16 strokes in the old form, but only four strokes in the simplified version.

In recommending the latest revision of the language, the "People's

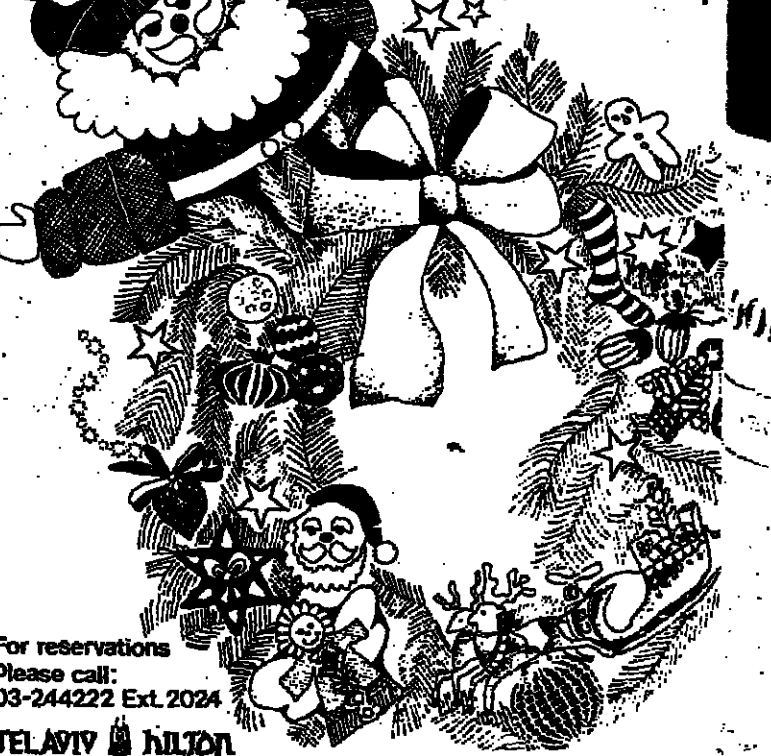
Daily" quoted in an editorial as saying by the late Chairman Mao in 1951 that "the language of our country must be reformed and oriented to the mass phonetic alphabet as is common the world's other written languages."

The announcement yesterday said the government was aiming standard language, based on Peking dialect.

STRIKE. — Millions of It workers staged a one-nationwide general strike yesterday to press demands for the establishment of a trade union for the police. The strike affected 11 airports while city transportation halted for one hour.

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Finding a Way to Stay

One-day seminar for tourists and volunteers aged 18 — 2 covering all aspects of settlement in Israel to be held at RAMAT EF AL, Tel Aviv, on Sunday, December 25.

Please phone Elaine by December 22, at the South Africa Zionist Federation, Tel Aviv, Tel. 03-290131, for further information, and to confirm your registration.

Ministry of Transport and Communications
Central
Road Transport
Jerusalem District

Jerusalem Municipality
Engineering Services
Administration
Traffic Branch

Israel Police
Traffic Division
Jerusalem District

Closing of Rehov Davidson, Shechunat Neve Shaanan

Effective December 22, 1977, Rehov Davidson will be closed at its lower end, to prevent vehicular traffic through this street between Rehov Ruppim and Rehov Herzog.

Jerusalem International YMCA
King David Street
Jerusalem

United Carol Service
Christmas Eve
Dec. 24 at 8 p.m.
Readings — Carols — Choir
'Singers of Praise'

Christmas Message
"The Realities of Christmas"
by Rev. Bill White

YMCA Auditorium All are Welcome

haifa symphony orchestra
trust ltd.

SUBSCRIPTION CONCERT No. 4
Series I: December 25, 1977
Series II: December 26, 1977.
Haifa Auditorium — 8.00 p.m.
Conductor: DAN W. VOGEL
Soloist: Pinna Salzman — Flute
Scherzo: Overture in C Major, in Italian Style
Chapin: Concerto No. 1 in E Minor for Piano and Orchestra; Barwald: Symphony No. 5 in G Minor ("Symphony")

Tickets are available at the Orchestra's office, 50 Pevsner St., on Wednesdays from 4-7 p.m. at Gerber's, Central Carmel, Nova, Hadar Hacarmel, and at the Auditorium box office on the evening of the concert.

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AVIV STOCKS

'umping' accelerates;
PO shares drop 5-10%

AVIV. — Speculators were "umping" shares yesterday at a faster rate — with 80 shares by up to ten per cent each and a \$5 being "sellers only" — they fell by five per cent. The average was 11.50m, an all-time low for a seller's market. Another 200 shares were jettisoned in conversion.

Big banks remained firm, because they moved in and up huge chunks of shares helped without discrimination. There was also a move to restore confidence in a market which seems to be "bottoming" at present. Despite an immense 4,000,000 shares, Bank Leumi did not fall, but remained at 28.50m, and IDB or even picked up a point, to 24.75m. The turnover was 1,900,000 shares — a medium-sized bank of support its own shares, and started fell by 20 points to 23.4, a cool million was offered in a middle-sized bank, Union all from 745 to 670, with a turn of 710,000. It is difficult to pick out a few stocks which fell by a cent, but some of the "leaders" were: Development Mortgage registered, to 3,000; Lightering, to 405

(35,000); Ispro, to 186 (115,000); Cables, bearer, to 132.5 (280,000); and Amisrael, to 252 (45,000).

Among the "sellers only" the following can be mentioned. Igud, option number 2, 298; Mizrahi capital notes, number 4, to 139; Carmel to 409; Shilton to 196; Agriculture to 179; Hassaneh to 198; Sahar to 797; several Delek shares; and out of 53 industrial shares, 24 were "sellers only."

Even Naphta and Lapidot were "sellers only." Strangely enough, there was no headlong rush to linked bonds. However, 100 per cent linked rose by up to half a point, but the turnover was only 14,100,000; 90 per cent linked was unchanged, and the turnover was 12,100,000; and 80 per cent linked rose by up to one per cent, but the turnover was a low 300,000.

Dollar-linked and those purchased in dollars were mixed.

Most Active Issues

Bank Leumi 384 n.c. IL4,400,000
Hapoalim B. 436 n.c. IL5,700,000
IDB 125 n.c. IL4,900,000
Preferred "A" + 1 to 347
Turnover: IL150m.
Convertible: IL10.5m.
Share Index down 2.55%, to 186.74

LINKED	20.12.77	19.12.77
TURKISH		
1 Sea	2235	2240
1 Sea Junior	720	720
1 Sea Corp. B.	520	515

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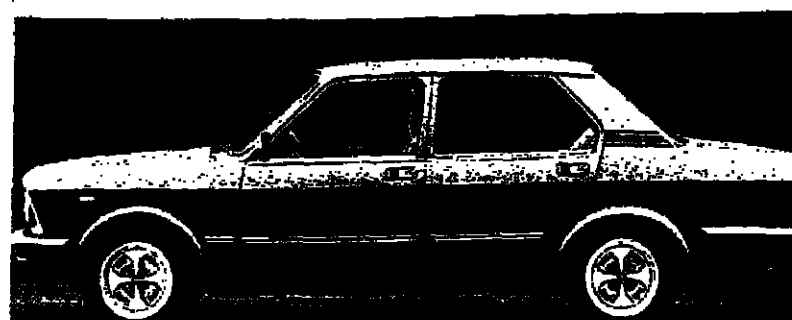
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Fiat shows
its 'prestige'
132 model

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Fiat's new "prestige" car, its model 132, with a 2,000 cc motor, was yesterday unveiled here by the local agency.

The car costs IL\$70,000 (including VAT), although a model with a 1,600 cc motor, costs only IL\$55,000. Fiat is also continuing to market an improved version of its popular model 127, with a 1,600 cc motor, for IL\$11,000 — but this price does not include VAT.

The model 132 can develop a top speed of 170 km. an hour, and at speeds of 120 km. an hour on the open road it is said to obtain 10.5 km. to a litre; at a speed of 100 km. an hour, it is said to obtain 12.2 km. to a litre.

The car has a guarantee for two years or for 32,000 kilometres. Its gearbox has five speeds, all synchromesh, plus reverse. The fuel tank has a capacity of 56 litres.

A Fiat spokesman said that the 132 was becoming the most popular model in Europe, with 7,000 being produced daily. The "rich were going down from larger cars to the more economical 132 model, and the middle-classes, interested in investing in a long-life car, were going up to the 132."

Fiat claims that there are more Fiat (of all types) imported to Israel than any other car manufacturer in Europe, and that 17 per cent of all cars imported are one or another type of Fiat.

During 1977, Fiat spent IL\$10m. in expanding its service facilities here; it expects to spend another IL\$5m. to IL\$6m. next year.

Amcor's quiet revolution

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Amcor has about 70% of the refrigerator market, and one third of the air-conditioners market. But not so well known to the public is that the company is now producing a diversified line of products which includes such items as insect control devices, car air-ionizers, solar systems and aircraft frame and engine components.

There has been a quiet revolution taking place at Amcor in the past few years. The company employs some 1,500 individuals, and 1976/77 sales were in the order of IL\$311 million. Exports last year reached the \$3m. mark, and company estimates for the current fiscal year place the export forecast at \$4.5m. — a rise of 30%.

Ory Bernstein, one of the two managing directors of Amcor, represents a second generation in the company. His father founded the company in 1948, primarily to produce refrigerators from imported components. The company's shares are divided among Amcor Ltd., Ha'arag Ltd., the Israel Group and the Shalom Group of New York.

The personable 40-year-old manager, a lawyer by profession, began his interview with The Jerusalem Post by contemplating what effect an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty would have on his company.

"Can you imagine if instead of shipping boatloads of refrigerators (to Europe) we could ship carloads of our products to Egypt. As it is, we export to Germany, and our highly competitive prices would allow us to become the major supplier for the growing Egyptian market," Bernstein said.

Peace treaty notwithstanding, Bernstein hopes to expand exports to reach a target of 120m. by 1982. Prominent in his future plans is the production of water heating solar-heating collectors. Amcor has succeeded in reaching a know-how agreement with a supplier in South America and the Far East, as well as with South Africa.

Amcor prides itself on being the country's largest home appliance producer. Last year it sold 19,000 television sets. In fact the company has captured 90 per cent of the local market.

In the past ten years the Amcor Group's sales have grown ten-fold. Estimates for the coming year are for an increase in the order of 35%.

Comeuppance for lazy civil servant

It took no less than the Supreme Court to fire an employee of the Communications Ministry who spent a month-and-a-half at work "engaged in personal activities, embroidery...doing nothing or not coming to work at all."

The country's highest court was asked to intervene in the woman's case after the State Attorney applied a ruling of the civil servants' disciplinary court which had decided — upon hearing a complaint from the woman's superiors — only to

demote her by one grade. The woman, who was employed in a Communications Ministry workshop, also appealed to the Supreme Court on the disciplinary court's decision.

The Supreme Court, rejecting the woman's appeal and upholding that of the prosecution, found the penalty imposed by the disciplinary court far too light. The case, it said, was indicative of "widespread and serious breaches in the discipline of civil servants." (Tim)

Toy Fund at Christmas party

THE JERUSALEM POST Toy Fund joined with the Jerusalem Inter-Faith Committee for Aid to Lebanon War Victims to help make the Christmas party at Kfar Blum a rousing success. It was originally thought that 50 children would attend (invitations were circulated to Christian villages in Southern Lebanon.) But when the car left Jerusalem yesterday en-route to the North, the Toy Fund had sent off gifts for 150 children, with extras for the children who were to be in the Good Fence and continue on to Kfar Blum for the party. The kibbutz dance company will entertain and the committee has enlisted six firms to help with refreshments.

Donations to the Toy Fund still keep flowing in, though at a slower pace at the moment, so that we will only run lists every other day or so. In the last two days IL\$7,196.20 came in, bringing the total so far to IL\$73,132.32.

You are not too late. You can still send your contribution to: The Jerusalem Post Toy Fund, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem. Till after Christmas it will still be accepted at the Jerusalem town office of The Jerusalem Post, Rehov Arlozoroff (just up from Cafe Alaska) or the

cashier at the Jerusalem Plaza Hotel. In Tel Aviv: our branch office at 11 Rehov Carlebach. In Haifa: The Jerusalem Post, 24 Rehov Herzl or the Hadar Book Subscriptions, Beit Hakranot Passage.

Our list of contributors includes: SP100 Imogen and Bob Astor, Montana, Switzerland.
\$50 Uri, Rosele and Dani Bauer, Lawrence, N.Y.

\$34.50 The Children of Adas Israel, Hebrew School, Fall River, Mass. — coupled with children's prayers for peace.
\$28.18 St. Vincent's Darlinghurst, Australia.

\$28 Rabbi and Mrs. Barry Tabachnickoff, in honour of Congregation Bet Shalom of Miami, Florida. In loving memory of my mother Lebe and as expression of my love for my dear friend Nicolas — Frank Bremel, Gothenburg, Sweden.
Leonard H. Mann, Fort Lee, New Jersey.

\$18 In honour of Dov Joseph's Bar-Mitzva of Esther and Jack Goldman, New Rochelle, N.Y. Yards and Neal Farber, New York, N.Y. — "Hail" to say "Lehayan" to Sol Farber upon his retirement. From Alice, Sara and Tamara Harder, Bethlehem, Pa. — In honour of peace, Mr. & Mrs. Joel Rottman, Stratford, Conn. — In honour of our daughter Marta Rottman of Givatayim.

"Hail" from the students of the Brooklyn Heights Synagogue Religious School, Brooklyn, N.Y. From the Cohen family: David, Rita, Seth and Bonnie, Brooklyn, N.Y.

\$10 Joshua and Daniel Sam, Debrah, III, Joel and Ruth Spolsky, Albuquerque, N.M. Alvin V. and Marilyn R. Essman, Chesterfield, Mo. Jeff, Deborah and Danny Moskowitz, Foster City, Calif. Edward Zarb, Floriana, Malta. John Cruise of Seattle, Washington — in

memory of Sgan-Ahuf Shlomo Lev. In honour of our wonderful children, Rifka, Yudit and Hillel — Rabbi and Mrs. Ephraim Ben-Zion, Saratoga, Mass. Mr. & Mrs. William Epstein, Worcester, Mass. — for our daughter Barcy and our mishpacha in Israel.

IL\$10 In loving memory of Paul Rosenberger and Grete and Hans Hiltstein.
IL\$10 In honour of Dana, Lior, Marit and Hagit. In memory of sabbah Joze — Sarah, Anat, Thale Tromp, Moshav Beer Yuvia. In loving memory of our grandfather Erich Simcha Vosen — Anat, Zur and Ran Abies, Jerusalem.

Anonymous, Jerusalem. In loving memory of our dear grandfather Shmuel Simcha Vosen — Anat, Zur and Ran Abies, Jerusalem. Anonymous, Jerusalem. In loving memory of our dear grandfather Yael and in gratitude for three healthy grandsons: Eran and Lior Herman, Asaf Talimudi — Rina and Kurt Hermann, Kiryat Haim, G.A., Haifa.

IL\$10 In the name of my friends — Irene Barot, Ramat Gan.
IL\$7 4 times "Hail" on behalf of our beloved grandchildren, Irit and her new Hanukkah baby brother, Avi Chessed, who celebrated his Brit Mila on the 14th of December — from Saba Orlik and Saba Louis Chessed, Ramat Gan.

IL\$70 In memory of our neighbour who passed away a few days ago — Irene Barot, Ramat Gan.
IL\$50 In the name of my great grandchildren — E. Mathathau.
IL\$4 5 times "Hail" for Roy, Eilat and Dana Shai — from Saba Mami and Saba Fred.

IL\$50 From H.L. Robinson, Tel Aviv — for I. & I. Lahav, Armona, Vite, Australia. P.R. Ramat Aviv.

Dead Sea Works tops list
of most profitable industries

By MACAREE DEAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — A listing of the 23 industrial concerns traded on the stock exchange and their "profitability," the ratio of net recorded earnings to net sales, has just been published by International Consultants, an affiliate of Bank Leumi.

The concerns are listed according to their net sales (the same basis used by Fortune Magazine), and International Consultants notes that the list is not complete, since "many of Israel's largest industrial concerns, such as Tadiran, or the Oil Refineries, are either not quoted, or belong to one of the major investment companies, such as Koor or Clal."

Topping the list (based on the last balance sheet, generally that of March 31, 1977, but sometimes of

December 31, 1976) are the Dead Sea Works, with total sales of IL\$43m. They are followed by Paper Mills, with sales of IL\$38m., Alliance, IL\$35m., Shemen, IL\$30m., Elite, IL\$25m., and Fertilizers and Chemicals, IL\$25m.

However, in most cases there is little relation between net sales and profitability. For example, although the Dead Sea Works has the highest profitability, 19.3 per cent, Paper Mills has one of only 1.4 per cent, Alliance, of 4.2 per cent, Shemen, of 0.2 per cent, Elite of 6.6 per cent and IL\$58m. and Fertilizers and Chemicals, IL\$25m.

Some of the smaller companies, such as Teva (sales of IL\$240m.) have a profitability of 8.2 per cent, and Polgat (sales of IL\$23m.) has a profitability of 8.6 per cent.

Ministers may get 10-25% raise

The Knesset Finance Committee this week will decide on raising the salaries of ministers and deputy ministers. The rise is expected to be between 10 and 25 per cent.

Deputy ministers are likely to get 30 per cent of a cabinet minister's salary, which for the past year and a half has been IL\$3,500 a month gross. This does not include the use of the official car, or hotel and meal expenses. The use of the official car is estimated as IL\$1,800 a month of personal income. The amount has not been adjusted since the income tax reform of July 1975.

The chairman of the Finance Committee, Shlomo Lorincz, told the press this week that the committee also plans to abolish official

residences for ministers, excepting the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister. This, he said, would save considerable amounts for investment and maintenance of official residences. Ministers will have to rent flats or live in hotels, and will be reimbursed for their expenses.

The Committee also plans to include in the ministers' salaries — which may come to IL\$15,000 and IL\$3,500 for deputies — all the customary emoluments, except car expenses. The emoluments, such as literature allowances, will no longer be detailed. This means that pension rights will be raised, because they are based on the basic salary.

The Committee has not yet reached a consensus on how much to raise the ministers' salaries.

Insurance against workers' absence

A new insurance plan which compensates employers for losses as a result of absence by workers has been prepared by Leubitz Insurance Services, a subsidiary of Bank Leumi. Leubitz also represents the British Prudential insurance company.

The principle behind the policy is that the employer is in fact the main sufferer as a result of a worker's absence, because of the resultant loss of production. Therefore the

employer should be compensated directly.

Employer and employee have full compensation rights from the beginning of the insurance period. In addition there is no linkage to a pension and damages fund. The compensation period for inability to work is 24 months for the following risks: temporary inability because of illness or accident; absence because of illness or accident; absence because of illness or accident.

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Decline in moderate trading

TEL AVIV. — Stock prices

in moderate trading

for the first time since the

beginning of the year, as

the Dow Jones average of 30

stocks was down four points

from 1,100 to 1,096.

Market watchers said several

factors appeared to be weighing

on the market, which posted a loss of more

than 14 points in the Dow index in the

previous three sessions. Among

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Begin in the dovecot

CONSISTENCY IS THE hobgoblin of little minds, is what Prime Minister Begin might have told critics of his astonishingly innovative solution for the problem of the administered areas.

In fact his response to an Israel Television reporter's query about the profound change he had wrought in his previous stand, was not very dissimilar. What did it matter, he said, so long as it helped advance the nation on the road to peace. A most cogent argument indeed, as anyone who cares for peace — and that includes virtually every citizen of this country — must concede.

To be sure, Mr. Begin could have saved himself some foreseeable aggravation had he come to realize somewhat earlier the necessity for change. From the moment he assumed office, if not sooner, it should have been obvious to him that the coalition guidelines, like the Likud's platform, would prove an embarrassing burden, should the possibility of peace with our neighbours ever come within reach.

But it is still no wonder that so many Likud MKs — and particularly in the Herut faction — voiced concern until their personal faith in the Prime Minister stilled, if not suppressed, their anxieties. As they see it, they were elected only last May on a pledge of keeping Judea and Samaria forever Israel. Now it turns out that, without warning, their leader has forgone — and not as a final concession, but as an initial bargaining position — any exclusive claim to that history-laden area.

Another aspect of the plan which appears to have nettled many Likud MKs is the suggestion that Jews and Arabs should have the same right to settle all over the Land. Now that Mr. Begin has translated this vacuous rhetoric into the language of specific commitment, infinite dismay follows.

As a result, the entire philosophy of settlement is meeting its roughest test ever. For until now it has not been clear — and previous Alignment regimes could not decide — whether the purpose of settlement in the areas is to stake out a claim of sovereignty for the State of Israel, or to assert the right of Jews to build a home in any part of Eretz Israel.

Now there can no longer be any question which it is. The settlers of the Jordan Valley are up in arms: understandably enough, they do not wish to live under any rule but Israel's. And Alignment leader Peres, citing earlier government undertakings, is backing them to the hilt.

Thus for the moment Mr. Begin can rely — a supreme irony — on the unstinting support of only the most "dovish" section of the political community.

Some of the criticism of the Prime Minister's plan may, of course, be due to the fog in which essential features are still shrouded. For example, it is still unknown whether the plan envisages temporary or permanent autonomy for the West Bank, with or without an eventual tie-up with Jordan. Yet this is of crucial importance in evaluating the scheme.

But if it is misreporting, or under-reporting, which is responsible for the domestic tumult, then it is Mr. Begin's bounden duty to enlighten the public, or at least its elected representatives, of the true facts. The plea of secrecy is surely inadmissible after Mr. Begin's meeting with Mr. Carter, and Mr. Carter's full report to Mr. Sadat.

It is good to know that the negotiating momentum is being kept up, with Defence Minister Weizman conferring with President Sadat and Egyptian War Minister Gamasy on security arrangements in Sinai, and Mr. Begin himself preparing for a meeting with Mr. Sadat. But such momentum, welcome as it is, cannot be allowed to result in the presentation of *fais accomplis* to the nation.

Storm in a milk jug

IT IS GOOD to have voluntary associations that speak up when they think that some aspect of the public interest is being damaged; it is bad when there arises a frontal collision between respected public agencies over a sensitive matter such as food hygiene, that affects every family, and must leave many housewives in a dither of indecision.

First it was eggs — are they good for the health or do they bring on heart attacks? Now it is the nation's milk — is it so sudden with the residue of certain pesticides as to cause cancer? The Consumer Shield organization raised a scare about the milk; the Ministry of Health denied that there is any danger in this nutritious fluid; and the Milk Marketing Board published a big advertisement in this paper quoting men of science to the effect that Israel's milk is safe and is good for you.

It should be made clear before anything else that everybody in Israel eats eggs and everybody drinks milk (or eats milk products) and that not everybody in consequence suffers heart ailments or cancer of the brain. The question is only whether persons prone to cardiac trouble might become more prone by eating two eggs every day, or whether the incidence of cancer might be raised because traces of the DDT used in the cowshed and the pastures find their way into the milk we consume.

So there seems little cause for panic. To tell the public, as the consumers' association has done, that local milk should not be fed to babies is almost like advising residents of Tel Aviv to stop breathing the air because it is polluted. Milk is an important nourishment, for which there is no ready substitute.

On the other hand, the Consumer Shield organization's complaint should certainly not be ignored. The health authorities have to re-examine their food safety regulations; and not only that. The time has come to set up an outside authority, made up of experts in the subject, who will do for food, drink and drugs something like what the Standards Institute does for manufactured goods: set quality standards.

The government is obliged to deal with all topics from a variety of aspects — economic (how much it costs to change the crop protection system); social (how many families make a living out of dairy herds); political (how popular would a ban be); as well as medical.

What is needed is an authoritative, non-political entity that is concerned only with the health aspect of the problem. Its pronouncements would in practice be binding. If it declared a particular foodstuff wholesome and free of infection, the housewife would feel reassured. If it found that a certain item of consumption had been rendered clinically unsafe by the use of particular agricultural chemicals, the government would have no option but to do something about it.

Professor Baruch Modan, Deputy Director-General of the Health Ministry, has stated that his Ministry is planning an "Independent food authority." The idea was brought up by the new Minister, Eliezer Shostak.

Let us hope that it will cover the topics which, in the United States, are the province of the Food and Drug Administration. The sooner such a body is formed, the better.

The demographic outlook

DAVID KRIVINE examines Jewish population trends in Israel and the Diaspora in the light of studies by Professor Roberto Bachi.

THE JEWISH community in the Diaspora is shrinking. The rate of natural increase among Jews is lower than that of their host populations. There is a higher percentage of aged Jews than aged gentiles.

The Jewish community in Israel is growing. Births exceed deaths — quite apart from the effect of immigration. But in Israel, too, population growth is less among the Jews than among the Arabs.

Why are Jewish demographic trends different? A couple of new publications by Professor Roberto Bachi examine the question. One is a full-length book called "The Population of Israel," issued in two identical editions, one under the auspices of the Institute of Contemporary Jewry at the Hebrew University, the other under the imprint of the Committee for the International Coordination of National Research in Demography.

The other is a short volume called "Population Trends in World Jewry." It evolved out of a lecture which Bachi delivered in January, 1976, at the study circle on Diaspora Jewry held at the home of the President of Israel.

King Solomon's realm comprised, in all probability, only a million Jews. That was the 10th Century BCE, a thousand years later, in the 1st Century CE, their number had doubled. But they were decimated in the Roman wars that followed.

By that time, a Diaspora had come into existence. World Jewry amounted to 4.5m. persons, including a million in Egypt, as well as a large community in Babylonia. The numbers dwindled over the Middle Ages. By 1800, which can be considered the beginning of modern times, the world contained 2.5m. Jews in all.

World population had multiplied three times during those 18 centuries. Why had the Jews lagged so badly? They were concentrated in the poorest parts of Europe; they were herded into urban ghettos and natural increase was lower in towns than in the country; above all, they were subject to persecution. Many found themselves cut off from the Jewish community through conversion, voluntary or forced.

THE BREAK came in the 19th Century. During the period from 1800 to the outbreak of Hitler's war, the Jewish population soared sixfold, from 2.5m. to 16.5m. That was faster than in the world at large. At the time, the advanced or industrializing countries were expanding more rapidly, for a change than the backward countries. Both enjoyed a high birth-rate; but the advanced nations had reduced the death-rate — that is, were long-lived — and their population growth was accordingly higher.

The Jews were increasing faster still. They remained predominantly urban — though middle-class urban this time — and they were shifting to bigger cities. They were abandoning the unremunerative jobs (trade, the crafts) and entering, with the aid of enthusiastic book learning, more sophisticated occupations (finance, the professions). They were packing their bags and migrating from the stifling hovels of the Jewish Pale in Eastern Europe towards the wider

horizons of Western Europe, the United States and the British dominions.

Then came the Holocaust. Since then, the trend has been negative again. At the present time, not enough daughters are being brought into the world to replace the mothers. It may be that the Jews are merely abiding by the practices of the particular, more prosperous class to which they belong. There are no statistics about the demography of individual income and occupational groups.

Bachi thinks that the Jews may even be ahead of the race, harbingers of new behavioural patterns that will, in due course, spread to the rest of the population. Inter-marriage is also a factor where the family stops being Jewish (which happens more in Europe than America).

WHATEVER the cause, Jews in the Diaspora are having fewer children. The figures are striking. There are more people over 65 than under 15. In Russia, the percentage change among the Jews has gone something like this:

	Under 15	Over 65
1897	40.8	8.8
1926	28.8	4.3
1970	10.5	19.4

The figure for non-Jews in the developed countries has also worsened, but not so much. Here is the comparison (in 1970):

	Under 15	Over 65
Jews	19	13
Non-Jews	26.7	9.6

In North America the figure for the Jews is better. In the U.S., the under-15s were 22.2 per cent in 1971, the over-65s, 11.5 per cent. The situation is similar in Canada as Bachi shows by comparing the per centages in earlier decades:

	Under 15	Over 65
1961	27.3	2.8
1961	27.6	2.3
1971	20.6	11.8

In Asia and North Africa, Jewish reproduction figures were 'always high'; but these communities have been dispersed (many families immigrated to Israel), and their number is negligible today.

THE CHANGE in the geographical distribution of the Jewish population over the globe is drastic. I have consolidated Bachi's figures into five groups, with the following results (in thousands):

	1958	1965	1972
Asia-Africa	1,137	1,284	284
Central and Eastern Europe	5,595	1,028	185
USSR	2,525	2,000	2,900
The Western countries	6,826	6,471	7,572
Israel	475	594	2,794
Total	16,045	11,348	13,594

In proportionate terms, the figures are as follows:

	1958	1965	1972
Asia-Africa	6.8	11.8	2.1
Central and Eastern Europe	50.6	26.7	14.6
USSR	38.5	57.0	56.9
The Western countries	2.5	5.6	20.4

READERS' LETTERS

DDT IS A CARCINOGEN

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — When a man who has apparently devoted a good part of his adult life to the production of a product defends the product publicly, there is often room to question his objectivity.

In his letter (December 11) in defence of DDT, Dr. J. Rosin says the anti-DDT campaign was led by politically-motivated groups. In fact, Consumer Shield, which has seen fit to warn the public of the potential dangers inherent in the consumption of Israeli milk and milk products, is the only Israeli consumer organisation that is totally independent of political, governmental or commercial influence and funding.

Dr. Rosin proclaims: "There was never any proof whatsoever that (DDT) is carcinogenic." This statement would certainly be of interest to the U.S. Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare who nearly 10 years ago was made aware by his expert commission on pesticides and their relationship to environmental health that DDT was indeed a carcinogen. At about the same time, research funded by the American National Institutes of Health and performed in part by the American National Cancer Institute gave the same verdict: DDT is a carcinogen. (Interestingly, well over 100 highly suspicious compounds including insecticides and pesticides were tested in their research. Fewer than 10 per cent of them were shown to be carcinogenic; DDT was one of these few.) Since that time, other studies have served to confirm the original findings.

Additionally, it was discovered as early as 1947 that DDT, in addition to being carcinogenic, was also a mutagen. Here again, subsequent research up to the present time has repeatedly confirmed the original findings. Mutation is a change in the genetic material of the cell that can cause miscarriages, birth defects, and genetic diseases. Such genetic damage, once it has occurred, is permanent and irreparable.

For Dr. Rosin, it may be "statistically significant" that workers at his DDT plant did not develop cancer, but then again cancer research is not Dr. Rosin's field. An expert committee of the International Agency for Research

in Cancer of the WHO, and other independent scientists whose expertise lies in the field of cancer research, have reviewed the data derived from studies involving workers in pesticide plants. They have found the number of workers investigated too small, their time of exposure too short, and the follow-up inadequate to exonerate DDT or other pesticides of human carcinogenicity. It must be remembered that, in man, the lag time between exposure to a carcinogen like DDT and the appearance of cancer may be 20-30 years or more.

Dr. Rosin's implication that DDT is a cancer cure is too ridiculous to require further comment. As to his statement that DDT is effective against malarial mosquitoes, Consumer Shield is in full agreement; but we are not aware that there is much of a malarial problem at the milk, cheese and butter countries. Consumer Shield stands by its grave warning to the public regarding the presence of large amounts of carcinogenic and mutagenic pesticides in Israeli milk and milk products. Readers interested in more detailed information on the subject may obtain it free of charge by sending a stamped, self-addressed long (No. 10) envelope to Consumer Shield, P.O. Box 26101, Tel Aviv.

Yours truly,
J.B. WESTIN, M.D.
Chief Medical Consultant,
Consumer Shield

Tel Aviv.

PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — If and when any so-called "Palestinian delegation" is asked to take part in the Cairo (or any other) conference, our organization insists it must also be represented.

We represent the Jewish Palestinians and our members have all legal documents proving Palestinian citizenship issued by the only authoritative authority, namely the Government of Palestine.

The fact that we do not represent any political party, nor a terror organization, should certainly not bar us from having a say at such an important forum.

Though we are aware that the Israel delegation will act in the best of our interests, it is evident that the same can be said about the various Arab delegations which will take care of the interests of "their Palestinians."

Thus, if in addition to the several Arab governments, a "Palestinian" delegation is allowed to take part, ours should be the first to be considered. We represent at least one-third of the total population of Palestine.

H. R. HELLINGER,
Secretary General,
Palestine Jewish Organization,
Tel Aviv.

The Diaspora population did not decline between 1946 and 1972. That is partly because there was a "baby boom" immediately after the Holocaust. Since then the statistics show a downward trend. Says Bachi: "In the last decade or so, fertility has decreased sharply. Levels of Jewish fertility have been systematically lower than those for other population groups."

In another place he observes: "Apart from the Jewish Diaspora as a whole, the proportion of children is about half, and the proportion of old people more than double that among the entire world population."

And again: "Apart from a few exceptions (such as perhaps Canada) almost all Diaspora groups are in a phase of demographic regress."

This is not so — as yet — in Israel. The under-15s in 1975 came to 29.9 per cent, the over-65s to only 8.7 per cent. This is a decline from the peak reached in the 1950s (35.3 per cent under 15 in 1957, 3.7 per cent over 65); but it is still better than the average for non-Jews in the developed countries. The trend in Israel towards smaller families, however, does present demographic dangers for the future.

FORECASTS are still optimistic. Bachi cites projections made in 1975 by the Central Bureau of Statistics (a department that he had founded, and headed until his retirement in 1971). Assuming there is no immigration, the Jewish population in Israel will rise over a 50-year period from 2,810,000 in 1973 to 3,586,000 in 1993 — an increase of over a quarter. By December, 1976, it had reached 3,017,000.

Two other alternative suppositions are made: an average annual immigration of either 25,000 or 50,000. This would yield a Jewish population figure for 1993 of 4,110,000 in one case, of 4,645,000 in the other.

The non-Jewish community in Israel (excluding the administered areas) will double, simply through natural increase, from 497,000 to 1,063,000. That means a rise for them — if there is no Jewish immigration — from 15 per cent of the total population to almost a quarter.

If we include in the calculation all the Arabs living under Israeli administration at this moment, in Israel and the occupied territories together, their number will by 1993 practically equal the number of Jews in the country.

That will not be the case, of course (as supporters of the Greater Israel movement never cease to point out). If there is a sizeable Jewish immigration.

	1958	1965	1972
Asia-Africa	1,137	1,284	284
Central and Eastern Europe	5,595	1,028	185
USSR	2,525	2,000	2,900
The Western countries	6,826	6,471	7,572
Israel	475	594	2,794
Total	16,045	11,348	13,594

In proportionate terms, the figures are as follows:

	1958	1965	1972
Asia-Africa	6.8	11.8	2.1
Central and Eastern Europe	50.6	26.7	14.6
USSR	38.5	57.0	56.9
The Western countries	2.5	5.6	20.4

PUBLIC BENCH

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — I refer to Judy Siegel's article on "Keeping Israel Beautiful" (December 1), in which she mentions the coloured benches designed by The Council for a Beautiful Israel.

The only thing I can say about these awful benches is that they are full of dust in summer and covered with water in winter. The bench which evolved over thousands of years — a few narrow planks with space in between so that the water runs off plus a back rest — costs a fraction of what these unserviceable monstrosities cost.

BEONISLAWA Y. NOYI
Netanya.



Once in a great while, an exceptional nightspot is born at the Dan Bar Tel-Aviv.

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POSTSCRIPTS



Mrs. Jehan Sadat

WE WONDER whether President Sadat is particularly happy at being listed among the world's ten best-dressed men. After all, so much depends in listings like this on the company in which you find yourself. In the present case, our good friend on our southern border found himself ninth in the list — an Italian one — well behind a bull-fighter, a Japanese fashion designer and the fiancé of Princess Caroline of Monaco. The jury, incidentally, didn't say whether they gave Sadat the accolade for his well-tailored business suits (he must have brought several with him on his visit to Israel), his turtle-necked leisure shirts, or the extremely well-cut galabiyeh he wears when visiting his ancestral village.

The same international jury (which included Gina Lollobrigida, the Duke of Bedford and Pierre Cardin) also chose the 10 best dressed women. Jacqueline Onassis featured eighth on that list, behind Olympia de Rochefort and Ina Fursberg. We must confess that we didn't recognise the other names furnished by the news agencies.

But while on the subject of the 10 most whatever, perhaps we may be allowed to comment that, after seeing her being interviewed for Israel TV, we feel that Mrs. Jehan Sadat would figure very high on a list of the most beautiful presidential wives. F.D.

FOR THOSE who love trains, peace with Egypt will only be real when they once again hear the whistle of the express leaving for Cairo, says colleague Alexander Zvielli, who is a railway fan.

The Beirut-Cairo run (with stops at Haifa, Lydda, Rehovot, Gaza, El Arish, Kantara and Ismailia) used to be almost as exciting as the Trans-

Siberian rail journey he once — though much shorter of course — made. International profitable line and one with its good maintenance and safety.

If the line were restored — some desired — it could cater best to the needs of the many, not the rich. It would make class hotels a profitable proposition. Hundreds of thousands of "Palestinians" and Allied War II veterans, Australian Zealander, Free French, Czechs, Yugoslavs and others could relieve the days when they travelled catching the first sight of the magic of the turn-table over the Suez Canal, the crowds at Zagazig junction, almost European stations of Kantara and Ismailia.

In the old days, crowded on leave from the Western fighting filled the Tel Aviv station, waiting for the carriage that travelled to Haifa and on to the groves and the groves of the beginning of the There were long stops at Rafah, El Arish, thousands of coffee while heavy tanks and ammunition rolled in had enormous significance during the moments of the Second World War.

After the one hour stop for military pass check and control, the scenery changed to the uninhabited stretches until the train reached early hours of the morning could travel further south Luxor.

Everybody then travels. There are many advantages. Foremost, it is a well-functioning rail link should not pose historic economic or physical obstacles could become a major tourism and open new per capita commerce.

Railways are the symbol of brotherhood with which a car cannot compete. One is a strong demand for a restoration of the express should be seen as the challenge on the long road in this area.

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